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THE ARMY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1873.

General Orders No. 15.

The following act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to incorporate a national military and naval asylum for the relief of the totally disabled officers and men of the Volunteer forces of the United States," approved March 21, 1866, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the said act be so amended that wherever the word "asylum" occurs therein the word "home" shall be inserted instead thereof.

SEC. 2. That the act approved March 23, 1867, entitled "An act for the relief of maimed and destitute soldiers," shall be construed to extend to all soldiers who have been or are in the national asylum, so as to give to each one a suit of clothing, or its equivalent in clothing, from the stock on hand in the Quartermaster's Department; and that Frederick Smythe, of New Hampshire, Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, and Thomas O. Osborn, of Illinois, shall be managers of said corporation.

Approved January 23, 1873.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, February 14, 1873.

General Orders No. 16.

I. Wherever there shall exist, in the same city or town, two or more depositories specially designated for the reception and safe-keeping of public funds intrusted to disbursing officers of this Department, each of said officers intrusted with such funds at that place shall cause the amount of his deposits of said funds to be proportionally distributed to said depositories according to the amount of the latter's securities with the United States Treasurer.

II. The depositories to which this order is applicable at this date are the following:

Designation.	Where located.	Amount of securities filed with the U. S. Treasurer.
Colorado National Bank.....	Denver, Colorado.....	\$50,000 00
First National Bank.....	Denver, Colorado.....	50,000 00
First National Bank.....	Indianapolis, Ind.....	100,000 00
Indianapolis National Bank.....	Indianapolis, Ind.....	100,000 00
First National Bank.....	Leavenworth, Kan.....	20,000 00
Second National Bank.....	Leavenworth, Kan.....	100,000 00
First National Bank.....	Portland, Maine.....	200,000 00
Merchants' National Bank.....	Portland, Maine.....	100,000 00
First National Bank.....	St. Paul, Minnesota.....	200,000 00
Second National Bank.....	St. Paul, Minnesota.....	200,000 00
First National Bank.....	Omaha, Nebraska.....	250,000 00
Omaha National Bank.....	Omaha, Nebraska.....	150,000 00
Exchange National Bank.....	Norfolk, Virginia.....	100,000 00
First National Bank.....	Norfolk, Virginia.....	100,000 00

III. Important changes which, from time to time occur in reference to designated depositories or their securities, are promulgated in circulars from this Department for the information and guidance of all concerned.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, February 17, 1873.

General Orders No. 17.

The following acts of Congress are published for the information and government of all concerned:

I.—AN ACT for the relief of James A. Waymire, late a second lieutenant of Company M, First Cavalry, U. S. Army.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Paymaster-General of the U. S. Army be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay, out of any money appropriated or hereafter to be appropriated for the payment of the Army, to James A. Waymire, late second lieutenant of the First Cavalry, U. S. Army, the pay and emoluments of a second lieutenant of cavalry, from the 27th day of February, 1867, the date of his assignment to active duty, to the 3d day of April, 1867, the date of his commission.

Approved, January 17, 1873.

II.—AN ACT authorizing the Secretary of War to contract for the construction of a light-draught snag-boat to ply on the Mississippi, Missouri, and Arkansas rivers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and is hereby, authorized to contract for the construction of a light-draught snag-boat to ply on the Mississippi, Missouri, and Arkansas

rivers: Provided, That said contract shall not require more than twenty-five thousand dollars over and above the amount available for such purpose, to be taken from the next appropriation made for the improvement of said rivers.

Approved, January 23, 1873.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, February 20, 1873.

General Orders No. 18.

The following acts of Congress are published for the information and government of all concerned:

I.—AN ACT to abolish the franking privilege.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the franking privilege be, and the same hereby is, abolished from and after the 1st day of July, anno Domini 1873, and that thenceforth all official correspondence, of whatever nature, and other mailable matter sent from or addressed to any officer of the Government or person now authorized to frank such matter, shall be chargeable with the same rates of postage as may be lawfully imposed upon like matter sent by or addressed to other persons: Provided, That no compensation or allowance shall now or hereafter be made to Senators, members, and delegates of the House of Representatives on account of postage.

Approved, January 31, 1873.

II.—AN ACT to regulate the employment of engineer soldiers on extra duty.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the enlisted men of engineers in the Army are hereby placed on the same footing with respect to compensation for extra-duty service as the other enlisted men of the Army, and that all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this provision be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, February 1, 1873.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1873.

General Orders No. 19.

The payment of rent, or any allowance, for quarters or fuel of officers' servants is hereby prohibited until more specific legislation shall sanction it.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, February 27, 1873.

General Orders No. 20.

The following Circular from the Treasury Department, amendatory of that issued in General Orders No. 1, of 1872, from this office, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

Circular amendatory of that of January 2, 1872, relative to public moneys and official checks of United States Disbursing Officers.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 14, 1873.

That paragraph of Independent Treasury Circular No. 1, of January 2, 1872, limiting transfer checks drawn by one disbursing officer in favor of another, to transfers of credits on the books of the depository where they are payable, is hereby revoked.

GEO. S. BOUTWELL, Secretary of the Treasury.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters and F, Seventh Cavalry, from Louisville, Ky., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company B, Seventh Cavalry, from Elizabethtown, Ky., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company B, Seventh Cavalry, from Spartanburg, S. C., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company C, Seventh Cavalry, from Charlotte, N. C., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company D, Seventh Cavalry, from Opelika, Ala., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company E, Seventh Cavalry, from Unionville, S. C., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company G, Seventh Cavalry, from Newberry, S. C., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company H, Seventh Cavalry, from Nashville, Tenn., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company I, Seventh Cavalry, from Lebanon, Ky., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company K, Seventh Cavalry, from Yorkville, S. C., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company L, Seventh Cavalry, from Threepoint, La., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Company M, Seventh Cavalry, from Oxford, Miss., to Fort Randall, D. T.
Companies F and M, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort McKavett, Tex., to Fort Clark, Tex.
Company B, Eleventh Infantry, from Fort Concho, Tex., to Fort Richardson, Tex.
Companies C and K, Eleventh Infantry, from Fort Richardson, Tex., to Fort Sill, I. T.
Posts Discontinued.—Elizabethtown, Ky.; Unionville, S. C.; Opelika, Ala.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending March 10, 1873.

[No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's office on Tuesday, March 4.]

Wednesday, March 5.

Leave of absence is granted the following-named officers: Second Lieutenant J. S. Rogers, First Infantry, for six months; Second Lieutenant D. J. Gibbon, Ninth Cavalry, acting signal officer, for thirty days.
Discharged.—Hospital Steward Henry L. Hawkins, U. S. Army.

Leave of absence for six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is granted Major A. J. Dallas, Twenty-third Infantry.

Leave of absence for six months is granted Captain Herbert A. Hascall, Fifth Artillery, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Thursday, March 6.

A board of officers to consist of Captain Charles J. Dickey, Twenty-second Infantry, Assistant Surgeon John S. Billings, First Lieutenant Thomas H. Bradley, Twenty-first Infantry, will assemble in this city on the 10th inst., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine into and report upon the qualifications of such persons as may be brought before it for appointment as superintendents of National Cemeteries. The applicants must fulfil the conditions prescribed in General Orders No. 64, of 1867, and No. 51, of 1872, from this office. The junior member of the board will act as recorder.

Discharged.—Recruit Patrick O'Hearn, Mounted Service U. S. Army; Private Adam Bot, Company G, Fifth Infantry; Unattached Private Edward Monaghan, Second Infantry.

Friday, March 7.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, so much of Special Orders No. 41, of February 28, 1873, from this office, as directs Hospital Steward Herman Rhodin, U. S. Army, to report in person to the commanding general Department of the East for assignment to duty, is revoked, and he will, on receipt of this order, proceed to Little Rock, Ark., and on his arrival at that place will report by letter to the commanding officer Department of the Gulf for assignment to duty.

Hospital Steward James O. Davis, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty at Jackson, Miss., and will report in person to the commanding general Department of the East for assignment to duty.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Carl Veitnheimer, Fourth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 18, February 3, 1873, from headquarters Department of the Gulf, is extended five months.

Saturday, March 8.

Discharged.—Private Herman Otterstedt, Company C, Seventh Cavalry, on account of fraudulent enlistment; Private Benjamin Plumb, Company I, Seventh Cavalry; Private Louis Speak, Company L, Seventh Cavalry.

Special Orders No. 473, paragraph 3, December 19, 1871, from this office, directing that Recruit Fritz Soupe, General Service U. S. Army, be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, is revoked.

Monday, March 10.

As soon as existing requisitions have been filled, the Superintendent General Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded under proper charge from depot forty-two recruits to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to the Twentieth Infantry.

The commanding general Department of Dakota will grant a furlough for four months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Sergeant Edward B. Sanderson, Company A, Seventeenth Infantry.

Discharged.—Private William R. Green, Company C, Seventeenth Infantry.

Dishonorably Discharged.—Private John Carlin, Light Battery K, First Artillery.

Discharged.—Corporal Frederick Kornmann, Battery F, First Artillery; Private Solomon Apple, Company I, Eighth Infantry; Private David S. Williams, Company D, Fifth Infantry; Private William A. Brown, Company H, Fifth Cavalry.

The telegraphic order of the 3d inst., from this office, directing First Lieutenant Charles A. Vernou, Fourth Cavalry, to report to the Superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service, St. Louis Depot, Missouri, to accompany recruits to his regiment, is confirmed. On completion of this duty, Lieutenant Vernou will join his proper station.

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 8, 1873.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cary H. Fry, Deputy Paymaster-General—Died at San Francisco, California, March 5, 1873.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.
Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

The leave of absence for thirty days, Friday, March 7 granted First Lieutenant Constant Williams, Seventh Infantry, in S. O. No. 19, of January 31, 1873, from headquarters Department of Dakota, and extended

thirty days in S. O. No. 24, of February 28, 1873, from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, was further extended to May 1, 1873.

The furlough for thirty days (S. O. No. 15) granted Private James D. Vernet, of Captain Henry Wagner's company (C), First U. S. Cavalry, was extended thirty days (S. O. No. 15), from March 22, 1873.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

Colonel Benjamin Alvord, Paymaster-General.

General George P. Ithie, late paymaster United States Army, has associated himself with Mr. R. H. Sinton, a well-known real estate operator of that region, in a "mining record and real estate agency" at San Francisco.

The bill to pay the Montana Indian war claims, which passed at the last session, appropriates over \$500,000 in settlement of these claims; and in order that the claimants may suffer no further delay, the Third Auditor has arranged to have the claims taken up for examination at once, and the Secretary of War will detail an army paymaster to pay them by check as fast as audited. The law requires the Treasury officers to settle the claims on the basis of the awards reported by Inspector-General Hardie of the army.

PAYMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, March 8, 1873.

It is the painful duty of this office to announce the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Cary H. Fry, deputy paymaster-general and brevet brigadier-general U. S. Army. He died of pneumonia on the 5th inst., at San Francisco. He graduated at the Military Academy in 1834, entering the Third Infantry as brevet second lieutenant. He resigned in 1836, but on the breaking out of the Mexican War, aided in raising the Second regiment Kentucky Volunteers, and was appointed its major. In the battle of Buena Vista that regiment performed distinguished service. Upon the fall of its colonel, William McKee, and of its lieutenant-colonel, Henry Clay, jr., he was left in command. General Taylor, in his official report, spoke in warm commendation of his gallantry and good conduct.

He was appointed a paymaster in 1853. He was acting paymaster-general for five or six months in 1862, and has for twenty years performed faithful and honorable service in this Department. He received the brevet of brigadier-general, to date from October 15, 1867, for faithful and meritorious services during the Rebellion.

Full of generous and noble impulses, his native State, Kentucky, has looked with pride upon his career, and will join his numerous friends in sorrow and mourning for his sudden demise.

At the date of writing some doubt is suggested as to the fate of Major John S. Walker, paymaster, said to be lost on the steamer *George S. Wright*, en route from Portland, Oregon, to Sitka. It had been my intention to include in this notice the name of this excellent officer; and all will rejoice if any tidings of his safety shall yet be heard.

BENJAMIN ALVORD,
Paymaster-General U. S. Army.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, U. S. A., Chief of Engineers.

The following is a Memorandum of Orders, Circulars and Instructions, relating to the Corps of Engineers, issued or received during the month of February, 1873, and not included in our abstract of Special Orders W. D. A.-G. O.:

Colonel Cullum—Directed to transfer Rock Island Bridge, Illinois, to the Ordnance Department. Letter, Chief of Engineers, February 1, 1873.

Captain Post—Leave of absence granted in S. O. No. 9, H. Q. C. of E., extended until February 8, 1873. S. O. No. 13, H. Q. C. of E., February 3, 1873.

Major Merrill—Granted leave of absence for thirty days. S. O. No. 14, H. Q. C. of E., February 4, 1873.

Captains Mackenzie, Ernst, Post, First Lieutenant Payson—Members of a General Court-martial to meet at West Point, N. Y., February 13, 1873. S. O. No. 29, par. 2, W. D. A.-G. O., February 6, 1873.

Captain Benyard—Granted leave of absence for thirty days. S. O. No. 16, par. 3, H. Q. C. of E., February 10, 1873.

Captain Stanton—Granted leave of absence for thirty days. S. O. No. 17, H. Q. C. of E., February 14, 1873.

First Lieutenant Mahan—Granted leave of absence for thirty days. S. O. No. 18, par. 2, H. Q. C. of E., February 15, 1873.

Officers of Engineers and Agents—Publishes letter of Secretary of Treasury, February 8, 1873, calling attention of Disbursing Officers to yearly reports of checks outstanding and unpaid, etc., as required by the 6th section, act approved May 2, 1866. Circular, Office C. of E., February 21, 1873.

Officers of Engineers and Agents—Publishes letter of Secretary of the Treasury, February 8, 1873, relative to detailed statement of sales of public property required by 5th section, act approved May 8, 1872. Circular, Office C. of E., February 24, 1873.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thom, Majors McFarland, Wilson—Board of Engineers, to assemble at Washington, D. C., March 17, 1873, to consider and report upon questions relating to modifications of forms for contracts in use by Engineer Department. S. O. No. 22, H. Q. C. of E., February 27, 1873.

The act making appropriations for the construction, preservation, and repairs of certain fortifications, and other works of defence, for the year ending June 30, 1874, appropriates the following:

Fort Preble, \$40,000, and Fort Scamell, \$50,000, Portland; Fort Warren, \$40,000, Boston Harbor; Fort Winthrop, \$50,000, Fort Independence, \$35,000, Boston Harbor; Fort Adams, \$65,000, Newport Harbor. For Fort on Dutch Island, Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island, \$40,000; Fort Schuyler, \$65,000, Willett's Point, \$40,000, Fort Hamilton, and additional batteries, \$40,000, Fort Tompkins, \$30,000, Battery

Hudson, \$29,000, New York Harbor; Fort opposite Fort Delaware, \$35,000; Fort McHenry, Baltimore, \$25,000. For Fort Foote, and Fort Washington, Potomac river, Maryland, \$25,000; Fort Monroe, \$40,000; Fort Moultrie, \$40,000; Fort Sumter, \$40,000, Charleston Harbor; Fort Palaski, \$50,000; Fort Taylor, Key West, Florida, \$50,000; Fort Jefferson, Garden Key, Florida, \$50,000; Fort Jackson, Louisiana, \$65,000; Fort Saint Philip, Louisiana, \$50,000; Fort at Fort Point, \$65,000, Lime Point, \$75,000, Alcatraz Island, \$50,000, San Francisco Harbor; contingencies \$100,000; survey, \$150,000. For batteries in Portsmouth, N. H., Gerrish's Island, and Jerry Point, \$50,000; Battery at Finn's Point, Delaware river, New Jersey, \$40,000. For Fort at San Diego Harbor, California, \$50,000. For torpedo boats for harbor defences and for preservation of the same, \$300,000: *Provided*, That the money herein appropriated for torpedo boats shall only be used in the establishment and maintenance of torpedo boats to be operated from shore-stations for the destruction of an enemy's vessel approaching the shore or entering the channel and fair-ways of harbors.

Approved, February 21, 1873.

Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.—In accordance with directions from the Secretary of War, when a disabled volunteer soldier applies for transportation to one of the National Homes for disabled volunteer soldiers, the officer will see that an application for his admission is made to General B. P. Butler, president of the Board of Managers, Washington, D. C., direct. Pending an answer by due course of mail, the applicant, if in need, will be furnished with subsistence by the Subsistence Department, provided the commanding officer has no ground for distrusting his statements, and is satisfied that he is entitled to admission, but has never been admitted to, or has been honorably discharged from a Home; but not if he is on furlough therefrom. In cases where there is an imperative necessity that a man should go to a Home at once, not having heretofore been in, and in cases of insanity, transportation may be furnished by the Quartermaster's Department, and the case, with full particulars, including cost of transportation, will be reported to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ORDERS.

NO. 1-7, ISSUED DURING JANUARY.

No. 1, January 7—Remits unexecuted portion of sentence in the case of Private Arthur W. Hart, Signal Service Detachment, U. S. Army, sentenced by a G. C. M. at Fort Whipple, Virginia, November 4, 1872.

No. 2, January 9—Approves the proceedings, etc., in the case of Second Lieutenant Edward P. Turner, Tenth Cavalry, sentenced to be cashiered by a General Court-martial which convened at the camp of the Sixth Cavalry, near Fort Hays, Kansas, September 16, 1872.

Brigadier-General Pope, commanding the Department of the Missouri, in submitting the case for the final action of the President, asks his favorable consideration to the following remarks:

"The accused officer is a very young man, who has just entered the service. From all I can learn of him from his brother officers and others who have known him well, he is a most promising officer, and a young gentleman of high character, and, previous to this solitary and exceptional transaction, of exemplary habits. He arrived after a hard march at Fort Dodge, where, as is usual at frontier posts, he was hospitably received and entertained by the officers of the post, and, probably for the first time in his life, drank too much. For this single and solitary act of his life, which has no parallel in his previous career, and which is wholly unlikely ever to occur again, it seems cruel and unnecessary to destroy his career and blast his life."

It appears, also, from the evidence in this case, that the previous character of the accused was good. The proceedings, findings, and sentence are approved; but in consideration of the previous good character of the accused, and with the hope that he will hereafter carefully abstain from every indulgence that may tend to such dishonoring excesses as are found against him in this record, the President is pleased to commute his sentence to "reduction of rank, so that his name shall be borne on the rolls of the Army next after that of Second Lieutenant Frank P. Reap, Tenth Cavalry."

No. 3, January 11—Approves the proceedings of a Court-martial which convened at Prescott, Arizona Territory, September 25, 1872, and of which Colonel Alvan C. Gillem, First Cavalry, is president, in the case of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, acquitted of "Charge I.—Embezzlement, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and in violation of section 1 of the act of Congress approved March 2, 1863, for the prevention of frauds," "Charge II.—Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman;" found guilty "of conduct highly to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," and sentenced "to be suspended from rank for the period of one year, forfeiting all pay for the same period except \$75 a month of his monthly pay, and to be reprimanded in General Orders."

The proceedings in the foregoing case of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles H. Tompkins, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, and the findings upon the first charge and its specifications, and upon the third specification of the second charge, are approved. Regarding the proof under the second charge, it is to be observed that there is no dispute that accused certified two accounts which were fictitious in every particular as to which they were required by regulations to correctly exhibit his disbursements—so that a voucher, signed when blank, but given as the acknowledgment of the receipt of three hundred and seventy-five dollars, the price of three horses purchased by the Government, was made to represent a purchase of lumber at a cost of seven hundred and fifty dollars, when, in fact, as accused claimed, this sum was expended, not for lumber, but for hardware; another voucher, signed upon the sale to the Government of a small quantity of forage, was in like manner filled up so as to show the purchase of lumber for eight hundred and twelve dollars. And this mode of account was adopted with no other motive than to conceal and evade censure or responsibility for a greater expenditure in a certain undertaking than had been therefor duly authorized. Obligated to recognize these facts, which are virtually confessed, the Court qualify their affirmation of them by styling the accounts rendered by accused as "incorrect" but not

false. That an erroneous account might inadvertently be certified and no greater offence thereby committed than such neglect of duty as should be involved in the omission of proper care or vigilance, can be readily understood; but how, in any fit use of words, can it be said that an officer of the Army can render an official account, well knowing its statement to be incorrect, and yet not utter a falsehood? In view of the palpable contradiction thus indicated, the Secretary of War was constrained to reconvene the court for a revision of their judgment upon this charge. They have, however, thought proper to adhere to it, for the reason assigned, that there was no conversion to private use of the public money for which the vouchers in evidence accounted, but that such money was expended for the Government. This belief naturally induced their findings upon the first charge, but could explain their conclusions under the second only on the supposition that they hold that no official tergiversation of less criminality than embezzlement is conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, in the meaning of the 83d Article of War. This supposition the Secretary of War cannot entertain; but he is equally unable to view with approbation a judgment evincing at once such a singular misapprehension of the plain import of the language in which it is expressed, and such a deplorable misconception of the gravity of the offence it has ascertained. The flagrant inconsistency of these findings, and the inadequacy of the sentence they support, are deemed to be sufficiently exposed and condemned in their bare statement; but the occasion dictates an admonition that, should the light and imperfect estimate which this court have placed upon the obligation of officers to render true accounts and certificates of disbursements often receive the sanction of Courts martial, or ever become common in the Army, then its ancient and well-maintained reputation for the scrupulous honor and probity of its officers, as the trustees of its large fiscal affairs, no less than in all their other relations, will be liable to become, in public opinion, a mere tradition of the past. For these reasons the acquittal of this officer of the offences laid in the second charge is not approved; but inasmuch as his conduct was, undoubtedly, "highly prejudicial to good order and military discipline," the findings upon this charge and its specifications, while held to fall short of the demands of the proof under the law of the case, are confirmed, and the sentence will be duly executed. It is hoped that Lieutenant-Colonel Tompkins will find in the foregoing remarks a sufficient rebuke of his grossly irregular conduct; and that he will avail himself of the leisure afforded by the operation of his sentence to better acquaint himself with the obligations of his commission, and to reflect that the well-matured system of accounts, by which the disbursement of the public money is legally required to be scrutinized and regulated by competent authority, would soon become as useless as meaningless, should practice be tolerated by which funds appropriated or duly ordered to be expended for one purpose, could, without authority and without responsibility, be diverted to any other, under the disguise of fictitious or simulated accounts.

No. 4, January 15—Approves proceedings in the case of Captain Alfred Hedberg, published in the JOURNAL of February 1.

No. 5, January 15—Approves the proceedings in the case of Second Lieutenant Edmund T. Ryan, sentenced by a Court-martial at Santa Fe, New Mexico, January 28, 1872, and of which Lieutenant-Colonel Fred Myers D. Q. M.-G., U. S. Army, is president, "To be dismissed and cashiered the service, and to refund to the United States the amount misapplied, to wit: seventy dollars and ninety cents, and that the crime, name, and place of abode, with the sentence of the court, shall be published in the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, the *Las Cruces Borderer*, and the *Washington Chronicle*." Second Lieutenant Edmund T. Ryan, Fifteenth Infantry, ceases to be an officer of the Army from the date of this order.

No. 6, January 15—Approves proceedings of the same court as last in the case of First Lieutenant Julian R. Fitch, Fifteenth Infantry, sentenced "To be dismissed and cashiered the service of the United States, and that the crime and name of the accused, with the sentence of the court, shall be published in the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, the *Las Cruces Borderer*, and the *Leavenworth Times*." First Lieutenant Julian R. Fitch, Fifteenth Infantry, ceases to be an officer of the Army from the date of this order.

No. 7, January 16—Approves proceedings in case of Major Benjamin P. Runkle, U. S. Army (retired), tried by Court-martial at Louisville, Ky., August 1, 1872, and of which Colonel F. F. Flint, Fourth Infantry, is president, for "violation of the act of Congress approved March 2, 1863, chap. 6, sec. 1, and "for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," and sentenced "To be cashiered, and the crime, name, place of abode, and punishment to be published in the newspapers of the State where he usually resides; to pay to the United States a fine of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500); to be confined in such penitentiary as the President of the United States may direct for the period of four years; and in the event of the non-payment of the fine imposed at the expiration of four years, that he be kept in confinement in the penitentiary until the fine be paid, the total term of imprisonment, however, not to exceed eight years."

The proceedings are approved, with the exception of the action of the court in rejecting as evidence a certain letter written by a witness for the prosecution, and offered to impeach his credibility; also in unduly restricting the cross-examination of the same witness in relation to the motives influencing his testimony. Inasmuch, however, as in the review of the case it was determined that the whole testimony of this witness could be excluded from consideration without impairing the force of the testimony for the prosecution, upon which the findings rest, the erroneous action of the court in this respect does not affect the validity of the sentence. The findings and sentence are approved. In view of the unanimous recommendation by the members of the court that accused shall receive executive clemency on account of his gallant services during the war, and of his former good character; and in consideration of evidence by affidavit, presented to the War Department since his trial, showing that accused is now, and was at the time when his offence was committed, suffering under great infirmity in consequence of wounds received in battle; and credible representations having been made that he would be utterly unable to pay the fine imposed, the President is pleased to remit all of the sentence except so much thereof as directs cashiering, which will be duly executed. Major Benjamin P. Runkle, U. S. Army (retired), ceases to be an officer of the Army from the date of this order.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdqrs Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brigadier-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Hospital Steward John Shearlock, U. S. Army, has been assigned to duty at Fort Sully, D. T.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain G. B. Dandy, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, February 27. During his absence First Lieutenant R. M. Taylor, Twentieth Infantry, will perform the duties of depot and post quartermaster at Fort Abercrombie, D. T.

Twentieth Infantry.—The order directing First Lieutenant J. A. Yeckly to join his proper company without delay, has been temporarily suspended. He will remain on duty at Fort Seward, D. T., until the expiration of the sick leave of absence granted to First Lieutenant Alexander Wishart.

Payment of Troops.—Major Rodney Smith, paymaster, U. S. Army, March 4 was directed to make payments to February 28, of the troops stationed at Fort Snelling, Ripley, and Abercrombie, proceeding to the two last named posts via the Northern Pacific Railroad—all more direct routes being blocked by snow.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

A. A. Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty at Fort Dodge, Kansas, and ordered to Fort Union, N. M., reporting, by letter, upon arrival, to the commanding officer District of New Mexico for assignment to duty.

St. Louis, Mo.—The following named officers have been detailed as members of the General Court-martial convened at the Cavalry Depot, St. Louis, Mo.: Captain Joseph Conrad, Eleventh U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenants B. S. Humphreys, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; E. A. Benjamin, Sixth U. S. Cavalry.

Omaha Barracks, Neb.—A correspondent writes as follows: "Captain Mix, Company M, Second Cavalry, this day presented to Conrad Wentworth, of his company, a rifle made especially for him in the Springfield Arsenal, price \$75.00. It is the best model of a gun ever brought west of the Missouri river. It is made with octagonal barrel, half stock with pure silver mountings. On the left side of the breech is a large silver plate with the following engraved on it: 'The Hunter's Prize—presented to Conrad Wentworth by Captain Mix.' This man is known as the best hunter and scout on the plains. He was delighted at his present, and so was the company. The men gave him three hearty cheers when they saw him take the gun. He said: 'Boys, I hunted for a company for four years, after a long day's march when in camp, I many times have laid before them bear, elk, mountain sheep, and black tailed deer, and gave them their choice. My reward for hunting in that company I got at Fort Fetterman. My captain sent me out to kill game for his company, with two men and a pick-horse and two days' rations. The Sioux Indians, seventy-five in number, surrounded me in the night, killed my two men and one horse, captured three horses and chased me after I lost my gun (my own property for which I had paid twenty-five dollars), for twenty miles bare-footed over frozen ground and prickly pears. You could count the bones in my feet, the flesh was worn off, and I had to walk on crutches for months. That was my reward in that company. I have been with you eleven months. Captain Mix gives me this for my good behavior and the game I have killed for you. This is a present that will last as long as I live, and my son shall know how to use it and how his father won this prize, and if we live we shall have plenty of fresh meat this summer.'

Tenth Cavalry.—First Lieutenant R. H. Pratt, March 6, was relieved from duty as judge-advocate of the G. C.-M. convened at Camp Supply, I. T., by par. 2, S. O. No. 1, c. s., from department headquarters, and First Lieutenant J. M. Kelley, March 6 was detailed in his stead.

Third Infantry.—Captain G. E. Head, March 6 was detailed as member of the G. C.-M. convened at Camp Supply, I. T., by par. 2, S. O. No. 1, c. s., from department headquarters.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted March 6 to Major E. H. Brooke, paymaster U. S. Army, to take effect when he shall have completed the payments prescribed him by par. 6, S. O. No. 25, c. s., from department headquarters.

Sixth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days has been granted First Lieutenant C. G. Gordon, to take effect upon the return of Second Lieutenant J. B. Kerr, from detached service.

Fifth Infantry.—First Lieutenant Robert McDonald, March 6 was ordered to Fort Larned, Kansas, for duty with his company.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Woods, Fifth U. S. Infantry, having reported in person at the headquarters Department of the Missouri, was ordered March 1 to proceed to Fort Larned, Kansas, and assume command of that post.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord, Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Bridger, W. T., March 11. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Albert G. Brackett, Second Cavalry; Captain Emory W. Clift, Thirteenth Infantry; First Lieutenants James N. Wheelan, Second Cavalry; Benjamin H. Rogers, Thirteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Frank U. Robinson, Second Cavalry. Second Lieutenant Frank Baker, Thirteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on account of the prevalence of high winds and severe weather at nearly all of the stations for troops occupied in this Department, no consolidated report of results of practice is furnished for publication for the month of February, 1873.

Target practice was continued, but results, though remarkably good, are not considered a fair test of the men's skill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. O. C. ORD, Brig.-Gen. Com.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, March 7, 1873.

Captain Deane Monahan, Third Cavalry, Second Lieu-

tenant James McR. Stenbel, Ninth Infantry, and Second Lieutenant George F. Chase, Third Cavalry, were (February 26) detailed as additional members of the General Court-martial at Sidney Barracks, Neb.

Third Cavalry.—The leave of absence for seven days granted Second Lieutenant D. M. Greene, by par. 1, S. O. No. 21, c. s., from headquarters Fort Hays, Kansas, was extended 20 days. Leave of absence, for thirty days, with permission to apply for an extension of sixty days was granted First Lieutenant John P. Walker, February 28.

In the case of First Lieutenant John P. Walker, Third Cavalry, the following instructions have been received from the headquarters of the Army (through headquarters Military Division of the Missouri), as follows: "Upon the recommendation of the Judge-Advocate-General, approved by the honorable Secretary of War, the General of the Army directs that you dissolve the General Court-martial convened for the trial of First Lieutenant J. P. Walker, Third Cavalry, release the officer from arrest, and restore him to duty." In accordance therewith, the General Court-martial of which Colonel J. V. Bonford, Eighth Infantry, is president, is dissolved. First Lieutenant John P. Walker, Third Cavalry, is released from arrest and restored to duty.

Nineteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted First Lieutenant Placidus Ord, A. D.-C., March 4.

Second Cavalry.—Major E. M. Baker, Second Cavalry, was March 4 detailed as a member of the Board of Officers instituted by par. 5, S. O. No. 2, c. s., from department headquarters, vice Captain John Mix, Second Cavalry, who is relieved.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.

Ninth Cavalry.—A. A. Surgeon J. J. Paterson, February 25 was ordered to report to Captain G. A. Parington, for duty with detachment of recruits now under orders for Fort Clark. Upon completion of this duty he will return to San Antonio, Texas, and report to the Medical Director for temporary duty.

Fort Concho, Texas.—A General Court-martial convened at Fort Concho, Texas, March 3. Detail for the court: Captains N. B. McLaughlin, Joseph Rendlebrook, Fourth Cavalry; Wm. F. Buchanan, A. S., U. S. Army; Theodore J. Wint, Fourth Cavalry; First Lieutenants Wm. C. Hemphill, Fourth Cavalry; William Hoffman, George G. Lott, Eleventh Infantry; Second Lieutenants Wentz C. Miller, Abram E. Wood, Fourth Cavalry; George LeR. Brown, Eleventh Infantry. First Lieutenant Henry Sweeney, Fourth Cavalry, judge-advocate of the court.

The leave of absence granted Captain N. S. Constable, A. Q., in par. 1, S. O. No. 43, c. s., headquarters post of Fort Concho, Texas, March 1 was extended seven days.

Fort McKavett, Texas.—A General Court-martial convened at Fort McKavett, Texas, March 4. Detail for the court: Major Albert P. Morrow, Ninth Cavalry; Captains Edward G. Bush, Tenth Infantry; M. Horton, A. S., U. S. Army; First Lieutenants Charles L. Davis, Tenth Infantry; Byron Dawson, Ninth Cavalry; John Drum, Tenth Infantry; Second Lieutenants Clayton S. Burbank, H. B. Chamberlain, Tenth Infantry; Millard F. Goodwin, Ninth Cavalry. First Lieutenant Edwin O. Gibson, adjutant Tenth Infantry, judge-advocate of the court.

Tenth Cavalry.—Brevet Captain T. J. Spencer, first lieutenant Tenth Cavalry, by invitation of the officers of the vessel and on a special permit of the Secretary of the Navy, will take passage on the 15th inst., on board the U. S. ship *Guard*—loaded for Vienna, to Gibraltar, where he will commence a tour through Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, etc., returning via Sicily and the European Mediterranean coast, and London to the United States. The Captain is on one year's leave.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

The following resolution was passed by the United States Senate last week:

Resolved, That the President, if in his judgment not incompatible with the public interests, be, and hereby is, requested to inform the Senate whether any commissioned officer of the United States Army, while on duty in the State of South Carolina, has received or attempted to procure payment of any money or other valuable consideration from the Legislature of said State, or endeavored to procure legislation to that effect, as a compensation or reward to him for services performed in the line of his duty as an officer of the Army, or otherwise, and whether any such officer, while so stationed and on duty, has been admitted to practise at the bar of said State, and has actually practised thereat for his personal emolument while receiving pay as an officer of the Army; and whether such officer is now on duty in said State, and if detached from his regiment for any and what service or purpose.

Seventh Cavalry.—Troop E, Seventh Cavalry, left Unionville, S. C., Monday morning, March 9, en route to their new station. Brevet Major-General G. A. Custer, lieutenant-colonel Seventh Cavalry, is at Memphis, superintending the concentration at that point of the troops which are to embark from Memphis for Dakota, and will remain there about a month.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, New York.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, cor. Greene and Houston sts., N. Y.

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending March 11,

1873: Captains Charles Hobart, Eighth Cavalry; Richard Arnold, Fifth Artillery; Colonel H. B. Clitz, Tenth Infantry; First Lieutenant S. McConihe, Fourteenth Infantry; Colonel H. D. Wallen, Second Infantry; Second Lieutenants J. H. McDonald, Ninth Cavalry; De H. G. Quinby, Fifth Infantry; Captain W. H. H. Benyard, Corps of Engineers; Colonel H. J. Hunt, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant B. K. Roberts, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant John Conline, Ninth Cavalry; Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe, Ordnance Department.

Bandmaster Joseph Emil Stigler writes to correct a statement in the JOURNAL, and says: "It was the Governor's Island Band (not the Second Artillery Band) which led the whole procession on the inauguration day at Washington. On the 5th of March said band serenaded the President at the White House, (and he had the kindness to call the band into the reception room), the Secretary of War, Adjutant-General Townsend, General Gibbons, and also Mrs. Captain Rutherford. On the 6th of March the above band was engaged to play in the Inauguration ball building with the greatest success."

Military Academy.—The act making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, appropriates the following sums:

For additional pay of officers, and for pay of instructors, professors, cadets, and musicians, \$220,379.50. *Provided*, That the professors of the United States Military Academy whose service at the Academy exceeds ten years shall have the pay and allowances of colonel, and all other professors shall have the pay and allowances of lieutenant-colonel; and the instructors of ordnance and science of gunnery and of practical engineering shall have the pay and allowances of major; and hereafter there shall be allowed and paid to the said professors ten per centum of their current yearly pay for each and every term of five years' service in the Army and at the Academy: *Provided*, That such addition shall in no case exceed forty per centum of said yearly pay; and said professors are hereby placed upon the same footing, as regards restrictions upon pay and retirement from active service, as officers of the Army. For repairs and improvements, \$14,500; for pay of citizen-mechanics and laborers, \$8,000; for fuel and apparatus, \$14,000; for gas-pipes, gasometers, and retorts, \$600; for fuel, \$3,500; for postage and telegrams, \$300; for stationery, \$500; for transportation, \$1,500; for printing materials, diplomas, registers, and blanks, \$700; pressman and lithographer, \$100; for clerical services, \$4,650; for department of mathematics, \$70; for department of artillery, cavalry, and infantry tactics, \$400; for department of civil and military engineering, \$500; for department of drawing, \$235; for department of chemistry, mineralogy, and geology, \$4,580; for department of natural and experimental philosophy, \$12,600; for department of practical engineering, \$350; for department of Spanish, \$50; for department of French, \$55; for department of law and ethics, \$50; for expenses of the board of visitors, \$4,500; *Provided*, That three members of the House of Representatives of the Forty-third Congress, whose credentials in due form of law have been duly filed with the clerk of the House of Representatives in accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1863, shall be appointed, by the speaker of the present House of Representatives, members of the Board of Visitors, at the next annual examination to be held at the Military Academy; for miscellaneous and contingent expenses, \$13,500; for pay of librarian's assistant, \$1,000; for contingencies for Superintendent of the Academy, \$1,000; for furniture for cadet-hospital, \$100; for buildings and grounds: For repairing and opening roads, \$1,000; for rebuilding the dam at the foot of Crow's Nest mountain, \$2,408.06; cadets' new hospital, \$20,000; for commencing system of sewerage leading from barracks of troops, \$3,000; for remodelling battery Knox, \$10,000.

Approved, February 28, 1873.

General Upton has sent the following letter to the Secretary of War:

WEST POINT, March 6.

To the Hon. William W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

We were met in New York this morning at 11 A. M., and escorted through the city by the Seventh regiment, whose superb appearance and splendid marching have made a lasting impression upon the Cadets. The march through the city was a continuous ovation. Lunch was served at the Seventh Regiment Armory, and an opportunity given to the two commands to interchange friendly greetings. The reception by the Seventh, so gratifying to the Cadets, was appreciated as a distinguishing feature of their trip to Washington. We left New York at 2:30 P. M., and arrived at the Cadet Barracks at 5 P. M. Academic duty and the usual military routine will be resumed to-morrow.

E. UPTON.

Lieutenant-Colonel, First Artillery, Commandant of Cadets.

Fifth Artillery.—The leave of absence for seven days, taken on the 1st instant, by Colonel Henry J. Hunt, commanding Fort Adams, R. I., under the provisions of par. 180, Revised U. S. Army Regulations, was extended four days.

Leave of absence for twenty days was granted Colonel Henry J. Hunt, March 10.

Third Artillery.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., March 13. The following officers of the Third Artillery were detailed for the court: Captain Lorenzo Lorain; First Lieutenants J. L. Tiernon, C. M. Callahan, C. W. Harrold, J. B. Eaton; Second Lieutenants C. W. Hobbs, J. D. C. Hoskins. First Lieutenant James Chester, judge-advocate.

Leave of absence for twelve days was granted First Lieutenant J. B. Burbank, March 8.

Watertown Arsenal.—The following opinion of the Judge-Advocate-General accompanied the order from Washington, for the release of Captains Gilbreath, Marye, and Michaelis improperly put under arrest by Colonel Laidley, post commander: "Respectfully returned to

the Adjutant-General of the Army with the decided impression that no trial of these officers by Court-martial is called for, and that they should at once be released from arrest. No defect or irregularity of any description in substance or form can be perceived in the original or final records of the proceedings of the garrison court of which they were members; and had the record been forwarded here for review and file, in the usual manner, it would never have occurred to this bureau that it was other than legally sufficient, and formally regular in every respect. The specific objections of form raised by the post commander are, indeed, such as rather to excite suspicion, and from their groundless character would seem to call for no comment from this bureau. As to the circular from the Department of the East, of April 3, 1871, setting forth a form for the proceedings of courts-martial, this bureau finds the proceedings of the present court to have in fact complied with the same in all essential particulars. However, it is held to be beyond the power of a military commander to make use of any form absolutely mandatory upon a military court; and, if a military commander should in fact require in imperative terms that a form determined upon by him should be adopted and followed by the courts within his command, no liability could attach to a court which should depart from such form, provided the legal essentials were substantially observed in the proceedings. The commander, in such case, might disapprove the proceedings altogether, or he might return them for correction according to his prescribed form. But no charge of disrespect or disobedience could attach to the court assembled for such purpose, if in respectful terms they prefer to abide by their original form, and this form being sufficient in law, their action would be accepted by this bureau as legal and proper. It may be added that, in the opinion of this bureau, the circular in question was not intended to be imperative, but was issued for the purpose of instruction only. And, in point of fact, as before remarked, the present court are regarded as having conformed to it in all material particulars."

DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

First Infantry.—Captain I. D. De Russy, upon the expiration of the leave of absence granted him in S. O. No. 218, par. 2, A. G. O. series of 1872, will proceed to Fort Wayne, Michigan, and report for duty to the commanding officer at that post, until the opening of navigation on the Lakes makes it practicable for him to rejoin his proper station, Fort Brady, Michigan.

First Lieutenant F. M. Lynde, March 7 was ordered to report in person to the commanding officer, post of Fort Niagara, N. Y., for temporary duty as a member of a garrison court-martial, and upon completion of this duty will return to his proper station.

Payment of Troops.—Paymaster H. C. Pratt, chief paymaster of this Department, March 7 was ordered to proceed to and pay the troops at the following named stations: Forts Porter, Niagara, Ontario, and Madison Barracks, N. Y.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdqrs San Francisco, Cal.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Brigadier-General E. R. S. Canby: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

Major Charles J. Sprague, paymaster, U. S. Army, was ordered February 27 to the Modoc Country, to pay the troops of Colonel Gillem's command in the field, and at Fort Klamath, for the muster of February 28.

Following named officers reported at these headquarters during the week ending Tuesday, March 4: A. A. Surgeon W. E. Rust, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant C. P. Rodgers, Fifth Cavalry; A. A. Surgeon F. S. Stirling, U. S. Army.

A member of the Navajoe Expedition of 1860-61, writes us as follows: "In your issue of the 22d ult., I notice an article about the campaign against the Navajoe Indians in New Mexico, in the winter of 1860-61, commanded by General E. R. S. Canby, which refutes an outrageous slander against General Canby, and the officers and soldiers then under his command, contained in a letter published in the *New York Herald*. With pleasure I see that Surgeon J. C. McKee has been the champion, not only of General Canby, but also of the men engaged under him, and I for one tender him here-with my heartfelt thanks for the refutation of such malicious slander, which no sane man in the United States or any other country will believe to be true. General Canby conducted this campaign to the entire satisfaction of the War Department, and also to all engaged in it; and if an officer is considered by his enemy as brave and magnanimous, by his inferiors as just and humane, such slander cannot reach him and in consequence not them under his command. General Canby's record stands too high to be injured by a letter to the *New York Herald*, whosever may be the inditer of it. There are plenty of officers and soldiers at present in the Army, who at that time considered him as brave, fearless, just, generous, and humane as officer as there is in the United States Army, and I am proud to say, have not since had occasion to change their opinion of him. As for the Navajoes, I fully concur with Surgeon McKee, that they were fed by the General with such rations as were then issued by Government to soldiers, and I have no doubt had such luxuries as are now in Subsistence stores been on hand then, they would assuredly have been given them."

We publish this statement with pleasure, assuring our correspondent at the same time that no one is likely to be influenced in his opinion of General Canby by such a stupid coward as the one he answers.

Fifth Cavalry.—Captain Robert P. Wilson, and First Lieutenant Calbrauth P. Rodgers, Fifth Cavalry, and Acting Assistant Surgeon W. E. Rust, U. S. Army, have been ordered to report to the commanding officer, Benicia Barracks, March 9, for duty with recruits en route to the Department of Arizona.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE Tallapoosa left Washington March 10, on a trip to the several Navy-yards.

The machinery of the monitor *Ajax* is being overhauled at the Philadelphia Navy-yard under the direction of Chief Engineer W. S. Stamm.

A CABLE telegram dated at Ville Franche, France, March 7, reports the *Shenandoah* gone to Barcelona, and the *Congress* expected to arrive in a few hours.

In pursuance of an act approved March 1, the President has nominated Frank M. Ashton to be a second assistant engineer in the Navy, subject to the usual examination.

REAR-ADMIRAL John Rodgers is still absent from Washington on the special duty of examining the naval stations at Pensacola, Key West, and New Orleans, and reporting any changes or improvements advisable.

THE field of survey on which the *Narragansett* is to be engaged will be along the peninsula of California, both the western and eastern coasts thereof, and the Gulf of California, including the ports, islands, and waters of the Gulf. La Paz will most likely be her headquarters. The surveys are to be conducted in the same manner, and are to be as complete and full as those marked out for the *Portsmouth*. Commander George Dewey has just gone out to take command of the *Narragansett*, which is soon expected at Panama.

THE *Juniata*, which was commissioned at Boston February 20, was inspected on the 25th ult. (previously stated in the JOURNAL as on the 26th ult.) by the board of which Commodore Le Roy is senior officer, preparatory to going to sea, and with some slight exceptions, is reported well fitted for a three years' cruise. The *Juniata* carries eight guns and a total of 233 persons—officers and crew. We are informed that no orders have yet been given to Commander Braine, and the destination of the vessel is not known outside of the Navy Department.

A REGULAR mail from the South Atlantic station having been lost in the *Erie*, the news of the movements of the vessels of this station is necessarily somewhat out of date. The *Lancaster*, reported at Montevideo January 1, arrived there on the morning of December 7 from Rio de Janeiro. On the passage of 12 days the ship encountered no very rough weather. December 8 Rear-Admiral William Rogers Taylor and staff made an official visit to the Hon. John L. Stevens, minister resident. The *Ticonderoga* was at Buenos Ayres on the arrival of the flagship at Montevideo, but, as stated some time ago, was ordered to Rio de Janeiro. The Admiral, having transferred his flag temporarily to the *Wasp*, to visit Buenos Ayres and such other ports on the river as could be reached with that vessel, was at Buenos Ayres January 22.

A BOARD of Civil Engineers of the Navy have been in session at the Navy Department for some days on the subject of permanent improvements at League Island, Philadelphia. The laying out of a Navy-yard on the scale contemplated at League Island, is a matter of the highest importance, and the plan of it should be well conceived and digested before permanent improvements are commenced. For this reason it has been deemed judicious to have a conference of the best civil engineering talent of the Navy—a meeting where views could be exchanged and plans concurred in, so, if possible, that no mistakes may be made in the improvements contemplated, which are to be of the highest order. The board is composed of civil engineers Sanger, Chandler, Hastings, Stratton, of Washington, Spear, Prindle, Stratton, of New York. The senior of the board, Mr. Sanger, has had abundant experience in the planning of navy-yards, having participated in the selection of sites and the maturing of designs of several on our coast. He has been the engineer of the Bureau of Yards and Docks for many years.

AMONG the bills introduced in the last Congress which failed to pass, was that "to regulate and establish the grade of certain officers in the U. S. Navy." This bill, introduced by Mr. Negley, provided that boatswains, gunners, carpenters, and sailmakers should be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and that they should have rank and pay as officers of the Navy; that for the first five years they should have assimilated rank with ensigns, after ten with masters, after fifteen with lieutenants, and should have pay the same as officers with whom they have assimilated rank—nothing in the act to give them additional right to quarters or authority, but they were to give way to line officers according to the established customs of the Navy. This bill, it is understood, did not receive the approval or commendation of the Navy Department, or, as might be expected, of the line officers of the Navy, and with such opposition its passage could not be expected. Congress in 1864 authorized the President to give these warrant officers assimilated rank with masters and ensigns, if in his judgment it should be conducive to the interests of the service. All their efforts at times since to secure the favorable action of the Executive in this matter have failed. It is urged that they now hold responsible and respectable positions as to rank, and that their pay increases at a liberal rate for every additional three years' service.

THE *California* and *Benicia* were at Honolulu February 7. In a few days Rear-Admiral Pennock proposed to transfer his flag temporarily from the *California* to the *Benicia*, and visit other important islands of the Hawaiian group. The *California* would remain at Honolulu until his return. About January 25, Rear-Admiral A. M. Pennock, accompanied by the U. S.

Minister resident, and by his staff and some other officers of his command, by appointment had an interview with His Majesty Lunalilo I., King of the Hawaiian Islands. The party was received with great courtesy and every mark of friendly consideration. On the occasion Rear-Admiral Pennock made an address to the King, which was appropriately responded to. The *California* has been officially visited by the members of the Cabinet, the Governor of the Island, and the representatives of Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, and Austria, all of whom were received with due honors. January 28 Rear-Admiral Pennock received an official visit from the King, his ministers and staff. The yards of the *California* and *Benicia* were manned, and a salute of twenty-one guns fired on the arrival and departure of His Majesty.

THE Washington correspondent of the *Times* denies the story of the grievous sufferings of the Cadets on Inauguration Day. "They did not go without food, nor did they leave without their overcoats. They left Annapolis at 6 A. M., with their own commissary car, in charge of their own commissary, Colonel Swann, and brought their overcoats by express order. When they marched up to fall into the line of the procession, they saw that the West Point Cadets had left off their overcoats, and they petitioned for the same privilege for the sake of their appearance in marching. After the procession they were taken to the commissary car at the depot, where was furnished everything that they wanted, and they were given, beside, the privilege of getting dinner wherever they pleased, until 7 1-2 o'clock P. M., as they had each of them been furnished with two dollars in money for that purpose before starting. Many of the boys availed themselves of this privilege, and had liberty until the train started on the return. They were back at Annapolis and in bed by midnight, and the cases reported as on the sick list next day were sore feet, from much marching, and inflamed eyes, from the dust, which blew everywhere on that day. There were but two or three frost-bitten cases. It was not the intention of the Secretary to have them return to their studies the next day, and the best evidence that there was no serious suffering is the fact that the boys are quite ready to repeat the visit."

CORRESPONDENCE to the New York *Herald* from Boston, Mass., on March 7, says: "The rumor which your correspondent heard in the Navy-yard here on the day he attended the inspection of the U. S. steamer *Juniata*—to wit, that this vessel would be sent upon a deep sea sounding expedition—has led him to again invade the quietness of the Navy-yard, and with an inquiring turn of mind seek again information on this subject; how well this has been rewarded I leave you to judge by the information I have to impart. I find, upon inquiry, that the rumor is correct. Already an apparatus, consisting of an engine, drum and reel, also guides for the line to run over, have arrived at the Boston Navy-yard, and these are being put together for the sounding work. They are placed upon the forward part of the U. S. steamer *Juniata*, and may be seen from the dock near which she lies. Many thousand fathoms of deep sea sounding line are expected soon to arrive or to be made at the Government rope-walk here for this purpose, and when she is ready, the *Juniata*, it is stated, will commence work by starting a line of soundings from Fire Island, near New York, thence to the Island of Bermuda, and return by another route. It is then supposed she will run a line of soundings from Bermuda to the Azores, and thence to some European port not yet decided upon. Of course your correspondent cannot know the reason for the line of sounding returning from Bermuda to New York, and he thinks that when the *Juniata* sounds to Bermuda, she should continue on to the Azores, and upon arrival there still proceed on with the work to the point in Europe decided upon. When she has crossed the Atlantic, then she can return with another line of soundings, or, if it is thought best, verify the route she has already gone over."

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

MARCH 7.—Surgeon G. H. Cooke, to special duty at Washington, D. C.

MARCH 11.—Lieutenant C. H. Rockwell, to special duty at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Ensign J. B. Murdock, to the receiving ship *Sabine*, at Portsmouth, N. H.

Paymaster F. H. Arms, to duty at the Naval Station, League Island, on the 1st April next.

DETACHED.

MARCH 7.—Lieut.-Commander S. W. Terry, from the Worcester, on reporting of relief, and ordered to return home and wait orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Merrill Miller, from the receiving ship *Sabine*, and ordered to the Worcester as executive officer, per steamer of 15th inst.

MARCH 8.—Lieutenant George C. Reiter, from the receiving ship *New Hampshire*, at Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the *Narragansett*, per steamer of 20th inst.

Master Ed. A. Field, from the Guard, and leave of absence granted for three months.

Chief Engineer David Smith, from the *Tuscarora*, on reporting of relief, and ordered to return home and wait orders.

Chief Engineer Louis J. Allen, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to the *Tuscarora*.

MARCH 10.—Midshipmen J. D. Keeler, Francis Winslow, and Edward M. Hughes, from the Nicaraguan Survey, and placed on waiting orders.

Surgeon E. C. Ver Meulen, from the *Onward*, on the 5th ultimo, and placed on waiting orders, from the 4th inst.

MARCH 11.—Paymaster R. P. Lisle, from the Naval Station, League Island, on the 1st April next, and ordered to settle accounts.

RESIGNED.

MARCH 11.—Assistant Surgeon Wm. H. McDonald.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States which have been reported to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Navy and chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending March 8, 1873:

George Files, carpenter's mate, January 6, U. S. steamer *Yantic*, at Zanzibar, Africa.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz:

FEBRUARY 28.—First Lieutenant Geo. B. Haycock, by direction of Navy Department, ordered to be detached from Navy-yard, Washington, D. C., to proceed to New York, take passage in store-ship Guard, and, upon her arrival at Trieste, report to the rear-admiral commanding European Fleet for duty on board steamer Cambrage, relieving First Lieutenant Frank D. Webster.

MARCH 5.—Second Lieutenant Edward T. Bradford, by direction of Navy Department, ordered to be detached from Philadelphia, Pa., Barracks, and to report for duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

MARCH 11.—First Lieutenant H. C. Cochrane, by direction of Navy Department, granted "an increase of rank in his grade as to conform to his original entry in the Volunteer Service," and informed "that his position on the Navy Register will be at the head of the grade of first lieutenants in the Marine Corps."

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1873.

Circular.

The attention of disbursing officers of the Navy is called to the following circular issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, amendatory of that of January 2, 1872, relative to public moneys and official checks of the United States disbursing officers:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Feb. 14, 1873.

That paragraph of Independent Treasury Circular No. 1, of January 2, 1872, limiting transfer checks drawn by one disbursing officer in favor of another to transfers of credits on the books of the depository where they are payable, is hereby revoked.

Geo. S. BOUTWELL, Secretary of the Treasury.

The paragraph of circular of January 2, 1872, is as follows: "Transfer checks drawn by one disbursing officer in favor of another will be used only to effect a transfer of credit from the drawer to the payee in the depository where they are payable, and to which they should be transmitted by the payee for such purpose."

Geo. M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, March 6, 1873.

Circular.

To enable the Treasury Department to comply with the provisions of the 5th section of the General Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved May 3, 1872, all officers of the Navy in making deposits of proceeds of sales of condemned stores, supplies, or other public property, will state, as far as practicable, the appropriation or appropriations from which the articles sold were originally purchased, the bureau to which the appropriation pertains, and the character of the articles themselves. This information, if sufficiently brief, can be given for endorsement on the face or back of the certificate; otherwise in an accompanying letter.

Geo. M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVAL APPROPRIATION ACT.

We publish a synopsis of the act "Making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June 30, 1874, and for other purposes," giving in full the portions embodying new legislation:

For pay of officers and men of the naval service (including sea-pay and rations of officers detailed or appointed as naval storekeepers abroad), mileage and transportation of officers travelling under orders, and for the Coast Survey Service, \$3,500 men, at an average pay of \$300 each per annum, 6,250,000: *Provided*, That no officer on the retired list of the Navy shall be employed on active duty except in time of war: *And provided*, That those officers on the retired list, and those hereafter retired, who were, or who may be, retired after forty years' service, or on attaining the age of sixty-two years, in conformity with section 1 of the act of December, 1861, and its amendments, dated June 25, 1864, or those who were or may be retired from incapacity resulting from long and faithful service, from wounds or injuries received in the line of duty, from sickness or exposure therein, shall, after the passage of this act, be entitled to seventy-five per centum of the present sea-pay of the grade or rank which they held at the time of their retirement. The rear-admirals provided for in the act of June 5, 1872, shall be considered as having been retired as rear-admirals. For contingent expenses of the Navy Department, \$100,000.

Bureau of Navigation.—Pilotage and towage, \$50,000; correcting and adjusting and testing compasses, \$3,000; instruments, books, maps, charts, and sailing directions, \$10,000; books for libraries for ships for war, \$3,000; Navy signals and drawings, and engravings for signal books, \$6,000; compass fittings, \$5,000; logs and other appliances for measuring the ship's way, leads and other appliances for sounding, \$3,000; lanterns and lamps, \$6,000; flags, \$5,500; oil, candles, chimneys, wicks, and soap, \$35,000; stationery, \$4,000; musical instruments and music, \$1,000; steering signals, indicators, speaking-tubes and gongs, \$2,500; civil establishment, \$12,000; contingent expenses, \$6,000; drawing, engraving, and printing and photo-lithographing charts, electrotyping and correcting old plates, preparing and publishing sailing directions, and other hydrographic information, \$20,000; surveying in the Pacific, \$50,000; making charts, including those of the Pacific coast, \$30,000; fuel, lights, and office furniture, care of building and other labor, purchase of books for library, drawing materials, and other stationery, postage, freight, and other contingent expenses, \$7,000; rent and repair of building, \$2,800; expenses of Naval observatory, namely, salaries, \$6,300; contingent expenses, \$13,500; transcribing astronomical observations for publication, \$1,200; completing tower and dome for the new refracting telescope, \$5,000; computations for catalogue of zone-stars observed by the United States naval astronomical expedition to the southern hemisphere, in 1850, '51, '52, \$1,500; switch-board for telegraphic apparatus, \$600; second instalment for the great refracting telescope, \$10,000; expenses of Nautical Almanac, \$23,000; miscellaneous items, \$1,500.

Bureau of Ordnance.—Fuel and materials at the Navy-yards and stations, \$100,000; labor at all the Navy-yards, \$300,000; repairs, \$47,601; miscellaneous items, \$6,150; experiments in ordnance, \$40,000; torpedo corps, for gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, and gun-cotton, \$12,000; electrical machines, galvanic batteries, and insulated wire, \$24,000; construction of torpedo-boats, purchase of materials, and work, \$27,000; coffer-work or hulks, and contingent expenses, \$35,000; repairs, \$4,700; labor, \$21,065: *Provided*, That the funds herein appropriated for the torpedo corps shall only be used in the establishment and maintenance of torpedoes to be operated for offensive or defensive use against an enemy in naval warfare; civil establishment, \$15,000; contingent expenses, \$1,000.

Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting.—Equipment of vessels, \$1,500,000; civil establishment, Kittery, Me., \$3,400; Charlestown, Mass., \$7,000; Washington, D. C., \$4,100; Philadelphia, Pa., \$3,800; Brooklyn, N. Y., \$3,900; Norfolk, Va., \$3,425; Pensacola, Fla., \$1,800; Mare Island, Cal., \$3,075; contingent expenses, \$125,000.

Bureau of Yards and Docks.—Civil establishment, Kittery, Main, \$4,400; establishing gas-works and piping to light the Kittery Navy-yard, \$20,000; civil establishment, Charlestown, Mass., \$6,900; Brooklyn, N. Y., \$7,800; Philadelphia, Penn., \$4,400; Washington, D. C., \$5,400; Norfolk, Va., \$4,400; construction of gas-works and piping at Norfolk Navy-yard, \$10,000; civil establishment, Pensacola, Fla., \$3,600; Mare Island, California, \$5,050; League Island, Penn., \$2,800; Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, Penn., wages \$6,828; miscellaneous expenses, \$11,650; support of beneficiaries, \$40,000; in all \$53,473; which sum shall be paid out of the income from the naval pension-fund; general maintenance of yards and docks, and for contingent expenses of yards and docks, not exceeding \$40,000, \$900,000.

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.—Surgeons' necessities, \$40,000; repairs of naval laboratory, hospitals, and appendages, \$25,000; civil establishment, Chelsea, Mass., \$7,782; at the hospital, New York, \$11,332; Philadelphia, Penn., \$6,990; Washington, \$4,926; Annapolis, Md., \$4,512; Norfolk, Va., \$5,406; Pensacola, Fla., \$5,094; Mare Island, Cal., \$8,873; Yokohama, Japan, \$2,478; at the naval laboratory, New York, \$6,400; at the Navy-yards and Naval stations of Charlestown, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Annapolis, Mound City and Kittery \$1,480 each; contingent expenses, \$25,000.

Bureau of Provisions and Clothing.—Provisions, \$1,547,600; water, \$40,000; civil establishment, Boston, Mass., \$2,031 50; Brooklyn, N. Y., \$5,868 75; Philadelphia, Penn., \$2,034 50; Washington, D. C., \$1,017 25; Norfolk, Va., \$1,017 25; Mare Island, Cal., \$2,312 75; contingent expenses, \$75,000.

Bureau of Construction and Repair.—For the construction of eight steam vessels of war, \$3,200,000; this appropriation to be available from the passage of this act; preservation of vessels and materials, purchase of materials, stores, and tools; wear, tear, and repair of vessels afloat, and general maintenance of the Navy; incidental expenses, advertising, and foreign postages, \$3,500,000; for protection of timber-lands, \$5,000; civil establishment, Kittery, Me., \$8,500; Charlestown, Mass., \$7,100; Brooklyn, \$7,100; Philadelphia, \$8,700; Washington, \$6,200; Norfolk, \$4,000; Pensacola, \$1,400; Mare Island, \$8,900.

Bureau of Steam Engineering.—Repairs and preservation of machinery and boilers on naval vessels \$1,000,000; yard machinery and tools, \$50,000; labor in navy-yards and stations, not before included, and incidental expenses, \$100,000; oils, coal, iron, and all materials and stores, \$400,000; completing five pairs of compound engines and accompanying boilers for the third-rate vessels *Marion*, *Vandalia*, *Suvarna*, *Quinnebaug*, and *Galena*, and other vessels, \$750,000; civil establishment Portsmouth, Charlestown, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Washington, Norfolk, and Mare Island, \$5,000 each; Pensacola, \$1,200.

Naval Academy.—For pay of professors and others, \$53,576; pay of watchmen and others, \$30,659.50; pay of mechanics and others, \$17,461.90; pay of employees in the Department of Steam Engineering, \$8,760; repairs and improvements of public buildings, and for repairing the wall enclosing the grounds of the Academy, \$14,000; contingent expenses, \$64,000.

That from and after the 30th day of June, 1873, the term of the classes in the Naval Academy at Annapolis shall be six years, instead of four years, as now provided by law, and this provision shall first apply to the class entering the Academy in the year 1873, and to all subsequent classes. Hereafter the course of instruction for cadet engineers shall include two years of service in the naval steamers in addition to the period at the Naval Academy now provided by law: *Provided*, That engineer officers graduated at the Naval Academy shall take precedence with all other officers with whom they have relative rank, according to their actual length of service in the Navy. Chief engineers having the same rank as medical and pay directors, and inspectors shall, when at sea, have the same pay; that naval officers subject to examination before promotion to a grade limited in number by law shall not be entitled to examination in such a sense as to give increase of pay until designated by the Secretary of the Navy to fill vacancies in the higher grade; and officers eligible for promotion to a grade not limited in number shall not be entitled to examination until ordered to present themselves for examination or until a class, in which they are included, has been so ordered by the Secretary of the Navy.

Marine Corps.—Pay and subsistence of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and others, \$373,639; pay and subsistence of two thousand privates, \$374,000; provisions, \$131,636.25; clothing, \$167,636; fuel, \$30,856; military stores, \$10,000; transportation and recruiting, \$12,000; repairs of barracks, and rent of offices where there are no public buildings, \$10,000; forage, \$6,000; hire of quarters for officers where there are no public quarters, \$16,500; contingencies, \$25,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he hereby is, authorized to make soundings between the western coast of the United States and Japan, for scientific purposes, and for the purpose of determining the practicability of laying a telegraph cable between those points: *Provided*, That no appropriation of money shall be made for such purpose: *And provided further*, That no money appropriated by this act shall be expended on account of vessels or naval engines contracted for during the war.

SEC. 3. That the Supreme Court may, in its judgment, the purposes of justice require it, allow any amendment, either in form or substance, of any appeal in prize cases, or allow a prize appeal therein, if it appears that any notice of appeal or of intention to appeal was filed with the clerk of the district court within

thirty days next after the rendition of the final decree therein.

SEC. 3. That the act of Congress approved December 21, 1861, entitled "An act to further promote the efficiency of the Navy," and the act approved June 25, 1864, entitled "An act to amend the act of the 21st December, 1861, entitled 'An act to further promote the efficiency of the Navy,'" shall not be hereafter construed to retire any officer before sixty-two years of age.

Approved March 3, 1873.

The Appropriations by the sundry civil act, approved March 3, 1873, for the Navy are as follows: For repairs of all kinds at navy-yards and stations: Kittery, Maine, \$93,500; Boston, \$125,000; Brooklyn, \$125,000; Philadelphia, \$40,000; Washington, \$75,000; Norfolk \$75,000; Pensacola, \$25,000; New London, \$5,000; Key West, \$5,000. League Island, \$250,000, not less than \$50,000 of which shall be expended in the removal of property and materials from the Philadelphia yard to League Island. Mare Island, for repairs, \$97,760; continuation of stone dry-dock, \$400,000; dredging, \$20,000; continuation of rail-track, \$15,000; iron-plating shop, \$50,000.

THE NEW NAVY REGISTER.

THE Navy Register for January, 1873, has just been issued, numerous changes appearing in the same, and having since occurred, as noted below. The number of officers is 1 Admiral; 1 Vice-Admiral; 13 Rear-Admirals, an increase of one, Rear-Admirals John A. Winslow and Samuel P. Lee being retained on the active list, and Rear-Admirals Joseph Lanman, Joseph F. Green placed on the retired list, and the vacancies in the list filled by Rear-Admirals Alexander M. Pen-nock, John L. Worden, and George F. Emmons. Since the publication of the Register, Rear-Admiral Lee has been placed on the retired list, and the retirement of Commodore E. Middleton having placed Commodore G. H. Scott first on the list, he has been promoted to Rear-Admiral, continuing the number 13, and leaving Commodore J. J. Almy first on the list. The death of Commodore W. H. Macomb, and the retirement of Commodore R. N. Stembel, in addition to the above promotions and retirements, caused 7 vacancies in the list of commodores, which have been filled by the promotion of Captains R. H. Wyman, G. B. Balch, T. H. Stevens, F. A. Parker, J. Guest, respectively. Captain D. McN. Fairfax is first on the list, his promotion being suspended, and Captain J. M. B. Clitz and A. Bryson, who were below him, have been promoted, making the present number of commodores 25. These promotions and the retirement of Captain J. F. Armstrong, and the death of Captain H. K. Davenport, left 9 vacancies in the list of Captains which have been partially filled by the promotion in regular order of the following 8 commanders: S. R. Franklin, W. D. Whiting, E. Y. McCauley, J. C. P. De Krafft, O. C. Badger, T. C. Harris, S. B. Luce, J. L. Davis. The list of captains numbers therefore 50, and by the promotion of the two latter officers, since the issue of the Register, (Commander A. A. Semmes is left at the head of the list. The death of Commander J. W. Shirk, the retiring of commander N. Green, and the above promotions, left 10 vacancies in the grade of commanders, which were filled by the promotion of Lieutenant-Commanders G. B. Whit, H. L. Howison, A. Kautz, A. T. Mahan, G. C. Remy, N. H. Farquhar, S. D. Greene, T. F. Kane, B. P. Smith, C. M. Schoon-maker, making the list of commanders number 90. The suspension of the promotion of Lieutenant-Commanders A. Hopkins and H. B. Seely being continued, they remain numbers 1 and 2 respectively on that list; Lieutenant-Commanders Kane, Smith, and Schoonmaker having been promoted since the issue of the Register. By the retiring of Lieutenant-Commanders A. R. McNair, and H. C. Tallman, and the above-mentioned promotions, the list of Lieutenant-Commanders has been reduced to 143.

By the death of Lieutenants H. W. Gwinner, H. G. Macy, J. M. Taft, and the retirement of Lieutenant D. Roben, and the resignation of P. T. Cunningham, also the placing of E. Dennison on the list of Masters, six vacancies have been caused in the grade of Lieutenant, which have been filled by the promotion of Masters J. D. J. Kelley, J. F. Moser, C. A. Stone, H. L. Tremain, R. P. Rodgers, and R. C. Derby, and the list has been increased by the promotion of the following officers: R. T. Jasper, S. Schroeder, L. G. Palmer, F. J. Drake, T. B. M. Mason, J. B. Smith, C. W. Chipp, N. H. Barnes, T. C. McLean, making the number of Lieutenants 218, which has been further increased since the issue of the register by the promotion of masters W. J. Barquette, C. T. Forse, B. Noyes. The above 18 promotions, and the desertion of Master W. M. Cowgill, and the retirement of Master C. P. Welch, increased the number of vacancies to 20, and up to date, according to our knowledge, but 19 promotions of ensigns have been made, which now makes the number of Masters 99. Masters B. S. Richards, F. A. Howes, and F. W. Nichols being retained as numbers 1, 2, and 3 on the list of Masters.

Up to date the following ensigns have been promoted to fill the vacancies in the grade of Masters: C. E. Colahan, J. P. Wallis, W. Kellogg, N. T. Houston, A. G. Berry, J. A. Norris, W. H. Driggs, N. J. K. Patch, T. S. Phelps, W. E. B. Delahay, K. Rohrer, J. A. H. Nickels, C. K. Curtis, H. A. Blanchard, E. J. Arthur, M. E. Hall, E. H. Taunt, D. D. V. Stuart, D. H. Mahan, and by the above 19 promotions, Ensign J. H. Moore is left first on the list, and another promotion being required to complete the list of Masters to one hundred. Ensign K. Niles will therefore rank number 1 on the list. Twenty-two promotions from midshipmen have been made, and at present the list of ensigns numbers 31, including Ensign J. H. Moore. Ensign G. Morton has been placed in the Register of 1873 after S. H. May. The following midshipmen have been promoted in the order given: W. F. Bulkley, S. P. Comley, S. H. May, R. G. Peck, J. Hubbard, J. W. Danenhower, J. B. Collins, J. B. Murdock, C. P. Reese, M. D. Hyde, N. Sargent, Jr., H. R. Tyler, H. F. Fickbohm, W. G. Mayer, S. L.

Graham, W. P. Conway, B. Leach, C. H. Lyman, J. H. Bull, J. B. Milton, F. H. Crosby, L. P. Jonett. According to the Register the date of the commission of the last 19 officers has not yet been determined.

Midshipman H. T. Stockton now stands number 1 in that grade, to which Cadet Midshipmen H. S. Waring, J. H. Winlock, F. E. Sawyer, and D. F. Baker have been promoted, making the list number 104.

In the medical corps, Medical Director J. C. Palmer remains number 1 and as Surgeon-General; Medical Directors J. D. Miller, G. Mauleby, J. S. Messersmith having been retired, Medical Inspectors C. Eversfield, R. T. Maccoun, H. O. Mayo, were promoted to fill the vacancies and complete the number of 15.

The above promotions and the retirement of Medical Inspector W. Lowber, left four vacancies in that grade which were filled by the promotion of Surgeons J. Y. Taylor, W. T. Hord, A. L. Gihon, E. R. Donby, continuing the number of medical inspectors 15. The promotion of the last named officers was succeeded by the promotion of Past-Assistant Surgeons D. McMurtree, C. J. S. Wells, E. Kershner, H. S. Pitkin, completing the list of surgeons to 50. The 4 vacancies in the grade of past-assistant surgeon have been filled, and the number completed to 25 by the promotion, up to date, of the following assistant surgeons: B. S. Mackie, D. Dickinson, B. A. Marmion, H. Stewart. The promotion of the four last officers, and the resignation of Assistant Surgeons A. Frank and E. C. Dunning, and the death of Assistant-Surgeon J. M. R. Simmons, created 6 vacancies in that grade, and reduced the number to 46, which has been made up to 50 by the appointment of J. R. Waggener, N. McP. Ferebee, E. Evers, J. W. Buell, as assistant surgeons.

In the pay corps, Pay-Director E. T. Dunn, Paymaster-General, has been retired since the compilation of the Register, and Pay-Director J. O. Bradford takes his place. The vacancy among the pay-directors has been filled and the number continued 13 by the promotion of Pay-Inspector R. H. Clark, and the vacancy thus caused has been filled, and the number of pay-inspectors continued 13 by the promotion of Paymaster E. Foster, whose promotion has been succeeded by that of P.-Assistant Paymaster F. T. Gillett, which keeps the number of paymasters 51. The death of Past-Assistant Paymaster H. Gerrard reduces the number of that grade to 32, no promotion having been made from the assistant-paymasters. The resignation of Assistant-Paymaster W. T. Stevenson reduces the number to 23, there being no appointments made to that grade.

In the engineer corps the first and second grades of chief engineers remain the same as in the semi-annual Register for 1872. Chief Engineer S. Albert, in the third grade, resigning, First Assistant-Engineer W. H. King filled the vacancy, and has been placed after Chief-Engineer J. Q. A. Zeigler, numbering 25 in that list. First Assistant-Engineer J. P. Sprague has also been promoted to the third grade of chief-engineer, which will make that list number 38. The promotion of First Assistant-Engineers W. H. King and J. P. Sprague, and the resignation of J. Roop, W. H. Harrison, T. Cooper, W. S. Neal; the death of W. H. G. West, and T. M. Jones, and the dropping from the list of J. H. Morrison, reduces the number of first assistant-engineers to 88, which has been increased to 90 by the promotion of second assistant-engineers J. Brown and J. C. Kafer. The list of second assistant-engineers has been reduced to 73 by the above promotions and retirement of A. H. Price, N. Ross, O. B. Mills, the resignation of J. M. Emanuel and the dropping from the list of J. C. Chaffee. The list has not been increased, no appointments having been made.

The list of chaplains, professors of mathematics, and secretaries remain the same, with the exception that Chaplain G. W. Dorrance and W. R. Cobb have resigned since the Register for 1873 was made up, and H. H. Clark, been appointed to fill one of the vacancies.

The list of naval constructors and civil-engineers continues the same as in the July register, 1872, with one exception, W. P. Sanger who, according to Register, was appointed September 14, 1842, being placed at the head of the civil-engineers. Among the warrant officers but few changes have taken place since the issue of the semi-annual Register of 1872. Boatwains T. G. Bell and J. Brown have been retired, and the appointment of the last, John Smith, revoked, reducing the list to 50, which has been increased to 55 by five appointments.

The list of gunners was reduced one number by the death of C. W. Homer, and afterwards increased by three appointments, and now numbers 63. The list of carpenters was also reduced one number by the retirement of E. W. Barnicoat, and afterwards increased by three appointments, and now numbers 40. The sail-makers list, by the retirement of W. N. Maull and B. R. Blydenburg, was reduced two numbers, and the vacancies filled by two appointments, which continues the number at 30.

The list of mates has been reduced by the resignation of P. J. Corbett, J. B. Crozet, W. E. Rattigan, and for some reason D. D. Ward has been left out of the list in the Register of 1873, and the number of mates now is 76, which completes the record of all the changes made in the active list of the Navy since the publication of the semi-annual Register of 1872.

THE TORPEDO QUESTION.

SUCCESSFUL TRIAL OF THE LAY TORPEDO AT NEWPORT.
Special Despatch to the New York Times.

NEWPORT, March 8.—To-day fortune has smiled upon the Lay torpedo, and not only its inventor, John L. Lay, but all the officers of the torpedo station are confident, from its trial to-day, that, notwithstanding the many mishaps in the past, it is a success, and is all that it is claimed. The torpedo was launched and moved off in a beautiful manner, performing, under the direction of the operator on shore, a number of circular motions on the passage, which won the admiration of all the Government officials present. It proceeded up the harbor a distance of one and a-half miles, in the remarkable time of twelve minutes and twenty-one seconds, as timed by

Professor Farmer. Owing to the weather being very hazy, the two miles which are to be run before the Government purchases the right to manufacture the torpedo, was not accomplished, as it was impossible to see or direct it, and, consequently, another trial will be had.

We publish the above despatch as we find it, though it is impossible to judge from the muddled report as to what are the real facts of the trial. The "circular motions" which excited the admiration of this correspondent were doubtless the zig-zag movement of the torpedo going with the tide and not minding her helm. We should prefer to see a report as to the time she made from some naval officer who would state how much of the speed was due to favorable conditions. We see nothing in this account inconsistent with the report of the previous trial which we published last week from the *Times*, and which stated that after running out from the shore a distance of half a mile the torpedo became unmanageable.

Among the points that have been made against the Lay torpedo-boat are its extreme delicacy and complication, the inadequacy of its motive power, and the uncertainty of the control of the operator over its motions. That these defects exist is abundantly proved by the several trials which have been made since the grand one last fall in the presence of the Torpedo Board, and a large representation from the Diplomatic Corps.

THE NAVAL CADETS AT WASHINGTON.

OUR Washington correspondent sends us the following explanation of the circumstances attending the recent visit by the cadet midshipmen to Washington:

Many of the newspapers have contained articles regarding the alleged harsh treatment of the cadet midshipmen on their visit to Washington to participate in the inauguration ceremonies, and as the Secretary of the Navy is the superior commandant of these young officers, it is quite natural that he has to bear the brunt of these charges. To what extent he is responsible for any errors or blunders committed, or whether they should be shouldered by those in authority at the Academy, is a difficult question to decide in the absence of facts in the case.

There appears to have been but one voice in the premises, and that has been that these young gentlemen deserved better treatment and greater indulgence. From the best information we can gather, the management of the visit—as to its time, duration, and details—appears to have been suggested by the authorities at the Academy, and to have been acquiesced in by the Department. It was generally known that the former did not favor the project, but no one would for an instant suppose any objection raised was prompted by anything else than an interest for the cadets themselves. Such a visit, particularly if a protracted one, would, it was thought, retard the course of studies, fatigue the cadets, unfit them for several days for their customary routine at the Academy, and in case of bad weather and unusual indulgence in the hospitalities of relatives and friends, result in many being put on the sick list. For these reasons it is believed the plan of sending them up in the morning and taking them back in the evening was adopted. The proposition to have them present was not a favorite one with many officers of distinction and rank, who feared many of the ills that followed.

There were two causes from which the discomforts of this trip resulted—the extremely cold weather, and confining the excursion to one day. The former deranged to an extent the entire inauguration proceedings, and made what would otherwise have been pleasant and spirited, dull and disagreeable. The cold weather could not be anticipated, and when it appeared it was too late to alter the programme of the visit. The hotels were full, the railroad trains engaged for particular service and their time tables fixed. Permission might have been given on the 4th for the cadet midshipmen to remain over night with their friends, etc., but this could not be practically managed at so late an hour. Those immediately connected in Washington and many others could have been comfortably quartered—some would have been less fortunate, or perhaps suffered from an unlimited freedom from restraint.

It is easy to see how different arrangements could have been made when an emergency has passed—to profit by experience and apparent blunders. We are prone to condemn when a movement fails, and to applaud when it is a success, without giving due weight to the circumstances which made it the one or the other.

The orders were for the cadet midshipmen to be in Washington by 8 o'clock A. M. To do this an early start was indispensable, as delays were to be expected. They were provided with a reasonable sum of spending money, and were enjoined to avail themselves of double under clothing, which, with their well padded jackets, was sufficient for their comfort in ordinarily cold weather. They clung to their overcoats until they observed the military cadets without theirs, when a natural pride was aroused, and they were permitted to dispense with them. The delay at the Capitol could not be avoided, and if the cadets had desired shelter at that time, it could not have been found.

As to refreshments, a commissary car was well provided, but as it could not be kept within the depot, or even near it, its supplies could not be made available. In fact there was no time for refreshments. The depot was over crowded, and the management and facilities of the road were insufficient and incompetent to make everything and everybody comfortable. This was particularly the case when the time for departing came. Thousands were on hand to leave at about the same hour—the regular trains had to be despatched on time and the special trains had to take their chances.

The indulgence shown the military cadets, the cour-

tesies extended to them, and the plaudits they gained in their superb drill, in the presence of thousands, made the fate of the naval cadets more aggravating. Could the latter have had the privilege and opportunity of displaying their skill and dexterity on the howitzer drill, the Army, the Navy, and the people would have been better satisfied. None probably regret that they did not, more than the Secretary of the Navy and Rear-Admiral Worden. The cadets conducted themselves with credit during their short stay in Washington, and proved that they could be trusted out of sight of their commanding officers. It is believed they enjoyed the trip notwithstanding its trials. They were allowed a day of rest on the 5th, suffered no serious consequences from the discomforts of the trip, and would no doubt be willing to repeat it.

Commander Cooke and Lieutenant Soley managed the command remarkably well under the difficulties of the occasion.

The explanation of our correspondent, though perhaps the best that can be made, is far from satisfactory. It will be hard to convince the Navy or the country that there was not gross mismanagement at Washington, through which the Cadets were compelled to suffer great hardship from inexcusable neglect. The thought of these lads, who at their Naval Academy balls have so often given hospitable receptions to officials and others from Washington, encountering in return so cold and careless a greeting at the capital when first visiting it as a body is by no means a pleasant one.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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ADVANCEMENT OF CERTAIN NAVY OFFICERS.

OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

THE Attorney-General, in an opinion given on March 3, to the Secretary of the Navy, has decided adversely on the claims of certain officers of the Navy, formerly in the Volunteer service, to a more advanced position on the Navy Register than that now held by them. These officers were appointed to their present positions under the provisions of an act of July 25, 1866, increasing the number allowed in each grade of line officers on the active list, and providing that, of the increase authorized, a certain number might be appointed from those who had served in the Volunteer service not less than two years and who were then in the Navy or had been honorably discharged therefrom.

Immediately after the passage of the act of 25th July, 1866, a large number of officers of the regular Navy were promoted to the vacancies it created and were commissioned under the date of the act. During the interim, from July 25, 1866, to March 12, 1868, other promotions were made to fill vacancies existing in the grade to which the Volunteer officers were appointed. Those so promoted took rank in accordance with the date of their commissions and in advance of those selected from the Volunteer service. The officers from the Volunteer service claim that their commissions should have been dated 25th July, 1866, as in the cases of those promoted immediately after the passage of that act, and that they should take rank next after them, instead of after those promoted in the interim, from July, 1866, to December, 1868, and that they should be now advanced to those positions.

The Attorney-General, after reciting the several laws bearing on the case, says it is clear that the act of 1866 does not of itself effect a transfer of officers from the Volunteer to the Regular service. That was to be done by appointment and selection after examination, etc. The question for consideration is therefore, whether the meaning and intent of the several acts (July 25, 1866, March 2, 1867) were that the officers selected from the Volunteer service should have their appointments or commissions dated as of the date of the act itself, 1866, although made or issued at a subsequent period, and take rank from that date.

The act contains no provision in express terms requiring this, and the Attorney-General cannot perceive anything in its language by which such a requirement can be fairly implied. It provides that a limited number of these officers (Volunteers) may be "appointed"—that before appointment they must be examined, then selected. The legislation does not contemplate immediate appointment; the examination, report of board and selection require consumption of time and necessarily postpone to a future period the exercise of the authority to make

the appointments. Upon the arrival of such period, on what ground can it be claimed that the appointments then made should be antedated to correspond with date of the act, or otherwise than the date on which they are actually made?

Some examined and reported qualified may have been one, two, or more years out of the service. In the absence of any provision of law to the contrary the natural and proper way would be to date their appointments as of the period when actually made, as in the case of appointment from civil life. No discrimination is made in the act between such persons and those in the service, and no reason is seen why the same rule should not apply to both. By section 1, act of July 16, 1862, rank in the grade to which appointment is made follows the date of the commission.

Regarding those appointed from the regular Navy under the 1st section of the act of July 25, 1866, the Attorney-General suggests that if any time intervened between the date of the act and the date of the appointment to their advanced positions, they could not with any more propriety have their commissions dated back to the date of the statute, than could those (Volunteers) appointed under the 2d section. There is no more authority under the statute to antedate the commissions in one case than in the other. As it is understood, however, that by antedating the commissions of the first class the relative positions of the officers were not made different from what they would have been had they not been antedated and no other officers were affected thereby, the dates which their commissions bear are unimportant. With those appointed under the 2d section it is otherwise, as they could not be dated back to the date of the act without prejudice to other officers, and where a fictitious date in a commission would be attended with such a result, it must be deemed improper unless there is clear authority of law for so doing. The provision in the 3d section of the act of March 2, 1867, providing for the crediting officers appointed from the Volunteer service with the sea service performed by them, does not afford any support to the view that their commissions may be antedated or that they should take rank from the date of the act of 1866. The effect of this provision seems to be to give the officers selected from the Volunteer service, after their appointment in the regular Navy, the full benefit of sea duty performed by them while in that service. Such duty may be important to the lower grades, to complete the period of sea service to entitle to nomination for promotion, or may be taken into account in assignment to duty. It does not confer the right to have commissions or rank antedated.

Upon the whole, the provisions of neither act, 1866 or 1867, are considered as warranting the view taken by the officers selected from the Volunteer service to have their commissions dated otherwise than of the date when their appointments were actually made.

In examining the question the Attorney-General has not felt called upon to express any opinion relative to the claims of the officers selected from the volunteer Navy in consideration of previous services and rank to priority of appointment over those who were advanced during the intermediate period between the date of the act of 1866 and the time when the officers so selected were appointed; nor relative to the right of the persons thus advanced to the promotions then received by them.

These are the main points of the opinion, which is too long for our columns, covering twenty-five pages of foolscap.

THE New York Tribune has sent a special correspondent, Mr. CHARLES NORDHOFF, an "old salt," on the track of the officers now looking after our interests in the Sandwich Islands. At Honolulu he informs us, public opinion states that Admiral PENNOCK, General SCHOFIELD and General ALEXANDER, have been quietly examining the bay called Pearl river, in Ewa Harbor, about ten miles from Honolulu, which it is proposed to cede to the United States in recompense for a treaty of reciprocity. It has, he tells us, "sufficient space and depth of water to make it one of the finest and most commodious harbors in the world; it is so well protected by nature that its waters are smooth as a mill-pond; and I am assured that it is thoroughly and easily defensible against an attack from sea. There is a bar—a coral bank, I think—in the channel, which has now only 12 feet

of water; but this is not a serious obstruction; for it could be deepened at small cost." General ALEXANDER, who has bored the reef at the bar, thinks that the opening of the harbor would cost nearly \$2,000,000.

"As a naval station," he says "the importance of the islands must in time increase, and the possession by the United States of the bay called Pearl river would be equivalent to and far better than our possession of the islands. We should have the use without the care of them. Surveys show it to be possible, I am told, to lay a submarine cable between San Francisco and the islands, and if this were done this point would no doubt become a centre of communication for the rapidly growing commerce of the Pacific Ocean. There was not a man-of-war of any nation in this port when the late King suddenly died. The *Benicia* arrived after the popular election; the *California*, Admiral PENNOCK's flagship, followed, and an English man-of-war came down later. Admiral PENNOCK had time, and used his opportunity to get the 'inside track' with the new King, taking the lead in receiving him with such salutes and ceremonies as are usual, and on Wednesday he is to sail in the *Benicia* to Hilo with the King, who wishes to show himself to some of his people."

Generals SCHOFIELD and ALEXANDER had at last accounts just returned from a trip with Admiral PENNOCK in his flagship, the *California*, to the island of Kauai, where continued rains interfered with his observation. Of his presence on the island another Tribune correspondent says:

This skilful officer is carefully spying out the capabilities and the nakedness of the islands. It is said that he came here for his health, but, of course, we don't believe a word of that. He is the picture of rosy, robust health; and then it is curious that an invalid should be telegraphed to at a remote station to hurry on board a war-ship and come here without a single package of his baggage. He came here, no doubt, on account of the supposed political ill-health of the country; and this military doctor was very likely disappointed to find his patient apparently restored by having swallowed a Lunalilo pill. But the political health of the country is only apparent, and nothing short of an annexation to America or an intelligent republican order of government will cure it. It is announced that King Lunalilo will accompany Generals Schofield and Alexander, and Admiral Pennock, on board the flagship *California*, on a tour round the islands. This courtesy to the king is considered impolitic; but I and others who know the natives consider it impolitic in respect to the interests of the United States. It gives more prestige to this mock royalty. In fact, all the importance it gets is from the salutes, manning of yards, and other parades of our American war-ships. American officers seem to delight in this fuss over our monarchy. It adds to the conceit of the King, and makes him think that his kingdom, which is about equal to a New York city ward, is a big thing. Every salute fired costs your government about \$60 in cartridges alone; and the two ships, the *California* and the *Benicia*, have wasted about \$1,000 worth of ammunition since they have been here, in doing honor to a little State which they could squelch at one broadside.

THE latest report from the Modoc country is to the effect that after much negotiating and palavering the efforts of the Peace Commission have failed and the problem of clearing the lava beds of Indians is turned over to General GILLEM for settlement. On the 4th of March, Commissioner MEACHAM telegraphed the Secretary of the Interior that the commission was a failure. On the 10th he telegraphed that Indians had offered to surrender, but this virtuous intention if it was ever seriously entertained, as it would seem from the latest reports, has been finally overruled.

At the annual meeting of the managers of the national homes for disabled and volunteer soldiers, held March 6, the old officers were re-elected: General Butler, President; General John H. Martindale, of Rochester, First Vice-President; Jay Cooke, of Philadelphia, Second Vice-President; and Lewis B. Gunckle, of Dayton, Secretary. The annual report of the secretary shows that the number of disabled soldiers cared for during the year was 4,730, an increase of 322 over the previous year. Of this number 1,935 were native-born and 2,441 were of foreign birth. The largest number from any one State was 988, from New York; number admitted during the year, 1,200, number discharged and number of deaths, 179. About one-third of the whole number, 1,559, received pensions. Over 1,000 of the inmates were employed about the homes during the year, receiving pay amounting to \$123,721.81.

AMONG the last acts passed by the Forty-second Congress was one authorizing the erection in Washington of an equestrian statue to the memory of Major-General George H. Thomas. The act appropriates eighty-eight condemned cannon for the statue, which is to be erected under the direction of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland.

At the request of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army Professor Tyndall, now in Europe, has consented to superintend the device and construction of an electrical instrument to be used at the signal stations of the army, for making regular, simultaneous observations of the electrical condition of the atmosphere. It is hoped from the immense rapidity with which electric changes manifest themselves, a system of electric observations of approaching storms far in advance of any hitherto had, may be established.

A NEW line of first-class steamers has been established to ply between Glasgow and New York, and the pioneer vessel of the line, the *Pennsylvania*, is to leave Scotland on the 15th of March. Mr. Radcliff Baldwin, of Austin Baldwin & Co., has been engaged to take charge of the line, which is a guarantee of good management. The multiplication of these ocean links shows how rapidly intercourse between Europe and America is increasing.

AMONG the public acts passed by the last Congress were the following:

AN ACT to provide for the better care and protection of subsistence supplies.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the Secretary of war be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to select from the sergeants of the line of the army who shall have faithfully served therein five years, three years of which in the grade of non-commissioned officers, as many commissary sergeants as the service may require, not to exceed one for each military post or place of deposit of subsistence supplies, whose duty it shall be to receive and preserve the subsistence supplies at the posts, under the direction of the proper officers of the Subsistence Department, and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

The commissary sergeants hereby authorized shall be subject to the rules and articles of war, and shall receive for their services the same pay and allowances as ordnance-sergeants.

Approved, March 3, 1873.

December 19—For free admission of monument, designed by Admiral Porter, to memory of officers, seamen, and marines who fell in defence of the Union.

January 8, 1873—To pay captors of rebel ram *Albatross*, \$202,912 00.

January 24—Abolishing grades of admiral and vice-admiral when the offices become vacant.

January 27—To appoint Fred. E. Upton a master in the Navy, with the grade in his rank he held when he left service.

February 1—Placing enlisted men of engineers in the Army on same footing with respect to compensation for extra duty service as other enlisted men of the Army.

February 10—To authorize construction of eight steam vessels of war. (Published in JOURNAL.)

February 21—To appoint L. R. Chester, formerly acting ensign, a master in the Navy.

Among the private acts passed were the following:

January 10—Appropriating \$10,000 to pay R. M. Green in full for his patent chain cable link bending machine, connecting shackles, and tackle hooks.

January 10—Allowing Samuel B. Elliott \$556 53 for services as acting purser of the *Flier*.

January 17—To pay James A. Waymire, late second lieutenant Company M, U. S. Cavalry, pay and emoluments of a second lieutenant cavalry from date of assignment to active duty to date of his commission.

January 17—Crediting the late Colonel R. E. Do Russy with \$3,036 80 in settlement of his accounts.

January 20—To pay Theodore Adams \$113,746 76, in full of claim for constructing 38 mortar boats and 8 steam tugs (Army).

January 24—To pay the widow of the late Henry C. Fillebrown, as an engineer, his salary to end of fiscal year.

February 5—Placing widow of late Surgeon A. F. Meehem, U. S. Army, on the pension roll.

February 5—Placing widow of late Colonel Josiah Snelling on the pension roll.

February 14—Authorizing accounting officers to credit Paymaster George F. Cutter with \$254 coin stolen from on board *Piscataqua*.

February 19—Authorizing accounting officers to credit Major J. W. Todd with \$3,000, money stolen, on production of satisfactory proof.

February 21—To reimburse widow of Second Lieutenant W. F. Gardner in sum of \$1,753 92, money stolen from his safe as acting quartermaster.

February 21—Allowing one year's pay to widow of Commander A. F. Crossman, he having been drowned on Nicaragua survey.

February 25—To pay John B. Emerson \$25,600 for infringement of his patent. (Navy.)

February 18—To pay legal representatives of George C. Bestor \$125,000, damages caused by Navy Department in construction of iron-clad steam battery.

The deficiency act, approved March 3, appropriates for clothing for the Marine Corps, \$10,000; for contingencies for the Marine Corps, \$10,000. Also for general expenses Paymaster-General's office of the Army, \$156,000. Also for Quartermaster's Department of the Army, \$2,480,000, for the fiscal years 1872-'73. Also for the purchase of postage stamps for Executive Department, \$1,865,900.

THE following is a list of appointments at large as cadets for the United States Military Academy for the class of 1874, made by the President, March 11, 1873:

Charles C. Hershey of Pennsylvania; served as drummer during the late war; son of Chaplain Hershey.

Robert Nelson Getty of the District of Columbia, son of Colonel G. W. Getty, U. S. A.

George M. Derby, son of the late Lieutenant Derby John Phoenix, U. S. A.

Haydon Burns of Ohio, son of Chaplain A. Burns of the 65th Ohio, who had four sons in the Army.

Henry H. Benham of Massachusetts, son of Colonel H. W. Benham, U. S. Engineer.

W. B. Turnbull of Maryland, grandson of Lawrence Lewis and Eleanor Parks Curtis.

John H. Berard of New York, grandson of the late Prof. Berard, U. S. Military Academy.

B. D. Spilman of Virginia.

John F. R. Landis of Pennsylvania, nephew of the late General John T. Reynolds.

Burton Vance of Indiana, the son of a refugee from Rebel violence who died in 1871, leaving the family destitute.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In submitting this brief supplement to a former communication concerning the uniform of the Marine Corps, I desire to express my acknowledgments of the very neat, readable, and comprehensible style in which the said somewhat lengthy communication was given to the arms-bearing public by the JOURNAL.

Since then the inauguration of President Grant, with its military and social features, has been recorded among the pageants of the past, and although the abominably bad and unprecedentedly severe weather militated mightily against pomp, circumstance, and fine raiment, still, all things considered, the parade was both respectable and creditable, and, at the least, furnished a good opportunity for a comparison of uniforms and confirmation of opinions, by those seeking to amend their military rigs, "of whom we are which."

An infinite variety of soldiers and uniforms was exhibited, but beyond all question the most solid, soldierly, warlike looking body of infantry in the city of Washington on that occasion was the Fifth regiment N. Y. National Guard, Colonel Spencer commanding, which, although it arrived too late for the parade (fortunately for the regulars), succeeded in showing itself off to great advantage at subsequent turnouts. I was so greatly impressed by its sturdy and noble appearance when it first hove in sight at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Fifteenth street, in column by company, marching with measured tread to the excellent music of thirty-two well-beaten drums, that it certainly seemed the nearest approach to my ideal of a *Regular* regiment that I had ever seen. This may seem enthusiastic, but it is well deserved and abundantly justified.

Analysis, analogy, and application at once became busy to define and utilize this effect, for the future garb of "the ever-faithful marine" was in our thoughts. All prejudice against the Prussian helmet vanished; with it went any particular affection for double-breasted coats for enlisted men, and I imagined long ranks of marines clad in so much of the substantial, business-like, useful, ornamental, and impressive costume of the Fifth New York as includes light helmets and single-breasted coats. Analysis showed that these articles produced whatever of the effect was especially due to uniform, and analogy and application that they might and could be worn by marines with the same result. Subsequently I found other officers who had been similarly impressed, and I now desire to amend my former suggestions by adding, for the consideration of the officers of the Corps and board, the claims of helmets for all, and single-breasted full-dress coats for the men. The saving effected in the superfluous cloth and buttons will help to pay for changes in other respects.

In conclusion it may be gratifying to know that frequent "uniform" discussions at headquarters, in Washington, show that the Corps is deeply interested, and almost a unit upon this uniform subject, and there is good reason to believe that a board of five officers will be ordered during the present month to "maturely deliberate" upon and settle the important question. In the meantime, orders for new clothing are suspended to await the verdict.

COCHRANE.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8, 1873.

A LESSON OF CONTENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: There are men who are never satisfied, as, for instance, Cadet Hollowlegs, who even at the Christmas dinner of his *plebs* year growled over a half turkey and a whole mince pie. So, too, here are any number of anxious artillerymen who will not be comforted—some because they cannot run a foundry; some because unable to decimate the corps by a permanent court-martial detail; and others because fascinated by the popular fallacy of competitive examination for promotion, which really only offers a premium to the ability to distend one's self with miscellaneous information that upon the slightest pressure exudes in statistical dribbles of all sorts—from the wounded of Waterloo to the topography of Thermopole, and would breed in the Army a set of encyclopædic dry-as-dusts, whether duodecimo subalterns who make their memories a treasure-house of calibres in decimal fractions, or a huge, unabridged quarto of a would-be Von Moltke, who knows the dimensions of every corn crib in Canada and the depth of each West Indian shallow.

We prefer to die of a repletion of teddy rather than tabulations. Vitality takes very diverse forms, from August the Strong with his three hundred bastards to Dr. Baxter with his two hundred volumes of theology, but when it is diluted into the mere capacity of absorption, sponges do better than gems. Much learning will make a prig where the thorough use of a little will make a genius. Such are our sentiments upon promotion by inquisition rather than seniority, as we also believe the date of commission to be a safer guide than official black lists.

But it is our main purpose to set forth a few of the professional blessings we enjoy in illustration of a lesson of content badly needed.

Without dwelling on minor points, as, for instance, our recent exaltation into the glories of a scarlet stripe and a double-breasted coat, a general's sword-belt and a coachman's cuff, there is abundant cause for more dignified thankfulness in the relation of the artillery to its martial furniture, similar in character to that we occupy toward the sartorial efforts of Brooks Bros. These give us our coats and the Ordnance give us our cannon; but the

financial equivalent, which reaches a painful maximum in the first case, is reduced to nothing in the second.

While, too, the ordnance brain has probably evolved out of its inner consciousness, aided by a confused tradition or two of the Barlow family, an ideal gun, projectile, and carriage, it has thus far kindly refrained from materializing its fancies into any formal addition to the tables of the Ordnance Manual, where the curious artillery scholar is yet left to wander among the simple and familiar numerical peculiarities of seacoast howitzers, 32-pounders, and other fossils belonging to the paleozoic era of gunnery. He can perfect himself in their drill, and derive therefrom the same benefit a modern astronomer would from a Ptolemaic orrery; for we have no platform and no carriage that will stand the rack of the high charges it is sought to make available against iron armor, and no amount of sand upon the chassis rail can hide the fact.

We are thus left in elegant leisure to await the results of ordnance obstetrics; and the present ancillary relation held toward us by the Ordnance Corps of field officers is very fortunate, as relieving us from a strain to which the tenuity of the line is quite unsuitable, and even consolidation, it is feared, would bring us more hernia than help.

We certainly have a counterpoise handspike on which a whole gun crew might hang themselves without any retroactive effect; and we have a hoisting crane which will run up a shell in nearly the time the *Hercules* would take to steam from Sandy Hook to the Narrows.

We never make our entrance in the drama of drill under the ignoble name of "squads," but appear always as "detachments," and for us is reserved the distinctive privilege of the command "Rear face" when we wish a man to look to the front. Then we can contract ourselves into the consciousness of Upton or be diffused over the practical utilities of the present heavy artillery tactics from a hot shot furnace to a bombardier's knot.

There is, however, our quintuplicate head, with which we are so impatient, although we believe the interesting variety of this hydroid form will compare very favorably with the dull sameness of any individual artillery tadpole, grown tired of being all tail and timid with batrachian possibilities. Even here it is simply necessary to await the action of the laws of development which will surely eliminate an "*E pluribus unum*" for us all in due time, as certainly as the claws of a centipede finally unify into the hoof of a horse. Meanwhile we must fortify ourselves with the first lesson of Professor Haven's course at West Point—that promotion is slow, and a good buckwheat cake takes time in the making.

Again, about the brevets: Congress gave them and Congress has taken them away, even as the obliging Ames hastened to do with his gift stock. Let us then not complain that our names no longer look amidst our titles like a tomtit among turkeys, but urge the removal from the Register of all traces which might confuse the wondering zeal of the future historical investigator from New Zealand when he comes to explore the records of the defunct republic for that bloody contest of the 13th March which resulted in so liberal a downpour of honors.

This hasty review of the situation embraces a few only of the facts upon which we might well congratulate ourselves, and it is time they were impressed upon the consideration of those who have heretofore so persistently clung to the gloom of their grievances.

GREATFUL JAMES.

ARMY OR CORPS LIBRARIES FOR THE LINE!

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: We have lately had the question of the studiousness of Army officers discussed at some length, and if my vote were to determine the question on its merits, I should decide in the negative; and if my experience (of at least one fog) is of any worth, its conclusion is that, as a rule, Army officers, out of the scientific corps at least, neither study nor read anything more than the current light literature and news of the day; and, to the best of my knowledge, they have neither inducements nor advantages for study, or even scientific reading. It may be said the love for acquisition of knowledge should be sufficient for the first, and leisure time and funds should provide the other. Granted for the first (although I think that examinations for promotion would prove much more stimulating); but not granted for the second. Post commanders do not take into account, in making their arrangement of duties and calls, any allowance for time for study, nor under the present system can they do so very well. Still, it may be granted that an officer so disposed could find or make time for such studies as he might wish to take up. But just here comes the hitch—he has not the books, cannot find them in the post library, if there is such a thing at his post; he cannot borrow them from his neighbors, for in this respect all are alike; he cannot buy them, for, if he is young and unmarried, his smart uniform and necessary (?) bachelor expenses will swallow every cent of his monthly stipend, and often before it is due; while the Benedict, between family and uniform, is at his very wit's end to solve the old, old problem, "how to make both ends meet." Even if an officer could buy his books, "what would he do with them" when he moved from Alaska to Texas? He could not transport them except at a ruinous expense.

I may state my own particular case for the information of the Commanding General, Congress, and the public at large, and I do not believe it very different from that of a majority of my brothers-in-arms. I do have a desire to study not only the science and art of my own corps, but many other things besides. Would find the time, more or less, but cannot either buy, borrow, or beg the necessary text books. I therefore appeal to my brother officers to state their views and inclinations on this subject, and, if mine are not found to be singular, then let us, or the Commanding General, petition Congress to investigate the matter, and, if deemed proper, establish a library for the whole Army and for each particular corps, with facilities for officers drawing books

as they may require them. I will state a few ideas on the subject: Undoubtedly the best plan would be to establish a brigade or regiment post for each corps, with an appropriate school and library, and let the different regiments of each corps have a certain term of service at what might be called their corps headquarters. The public expenditure for a library might be confined to buildings and such scientific and allied books as could not be obtained by private subscription or regimental fund. Then let there be organized a system that would enable officers at other stations to draw books from the library of their corps, and from the general library, if such should be established. Then a paper could be started at each headquarters in the interest of each corps, and science, and the public service generally.

Until such action could be brought about, is it not possible, by subscription or otherwise, to arrange a system of drawing scientific books through the Military Post Library Association, the books to pass from officer to officer as required, and damages, postage, and other expenses arranged by those using them? Let us advocate these or any better plans that may be suggested, and then we may hope to make our little nucleus of an Army what it should be in a still fuller degree, the nation's sheet-anchor in time of danger, and benefit and pride in time of peace. West Point, Willett's Point, Fortress Monroe, and the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, good as they undoubtedly are in their ways, do not supply all the brains, intelligence, and information needed in the Army. At all events, give the line a chance for development and culture. What answer, comrades?

A STUDIOUS SABREUR.

KEY TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I desire to call the attention of Army officers in general, and medical officers in particular, to the merits of an interesting volume lately issued from the press of the "American Naturalist," Salem, entitled "Key to North American Birds," by Dr. Elliott C. Cues, assistant surgeon U. S. Army. This work, to which the author has brought the accumulated experience of years of ornithological study and the advantages of a thoroughly cultivated mind, is essentially what it claims to be—a "Key to North American Birds," and something more beside, as in the work full and complete descriptions are given of all the various species of birds found in North America north of the Mexican boundary, with their geographical ranges, habits, etc. The text is lavishly embellished with wood cuts drawn from nature by Dr. Cues, and six fine steel engravings, representing the bills of birds, further adorn the volume. With the help of this key the veriest tyro can, with very little trouble, identify his specimens, and obtain a knowledge and understanding of American birds impossible to be found in any other work of this description. In addition to much other important matter, the work contains a copious index and glossary of ornithological terms invaluable to the student. The writer has no hesitation in recommending this book as supplying a want long felt at posts where the natural history should be worked up by the medical officer; and in post libraries it would no doubt serve a valuable purpose in encouraging those having a taste for ornithology, and greatly assist them in their studies. Such a book has been long wanted, and as it has been practically tried and found to be of great service, it is earnestly commended to others.

MEDICUS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8, 1873.

THE COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The last report of the Commissary-General, as printed by you, shows that he has in his department twenty-six commissioned officers, and that twenty-one of them are employed in purchasing the subsistence for the Army. There are about 30,000 men in the service, and the cost of a ration is about thirty cents, which will make the yearly cost of provisions about \$3,500,000. This by no means, however, is the cost of feeding the Army. There are about two hundred garrisoned posts, and they are spread all over the settled, as well as wild portions of our extensive country. The act of distributing these rations to the consumers is performed, after their arrival at post, almost exclusively by line officers. The transportation of the rations from the vicinity of their purchase to the place of their consumption, is performed exclusively by the Quartermaster's Department. It thus appears that the commissary officer proper does little more than purchase the supplies in open market. If they all did an equal amount of purchasing, each of the twenty-one would purchase about \$160,000 worth of provisions a year. The pay of the commissary officers amounts to about \$70,000 per annum. Each has at least one clerk, with an average pay of \$1,800 per annum, which will amount annually to about \$40,000 a year. The pay of officers and clerks thus amounts to about \$300,000 per annum; their rents and fuel will amount to 20 per cent. additional to this sum, at least; and we may safely say that the mere act of buying commissary stores costs \$350,000, or about seven per cent. upon the first cost of the rations—a pretty high rate of commission. That our Army is well fed, no one in it will deny; but that the cost is much greater than it should be, we believe no one acquainted with the subject will attempt to dispute. It would be an impossibility for any one out of the War Department to ascertain the absolute cost of food per man per day; it would of course vary greatly according to where the rations would be consumed. Much could undoubtedly be saved by a more general practice of purchasing what could be bought in markets of the vicinity of consumption.

Allusion is made by the Commissary-General to the immense amount of the work of distributing the rations at the posts that is performed by officers of the line acting as commissaries; and slight, if any, praise is awarded such officers for the generally intelligent, accurate, and efficient manner in which it is done. The recommen-

dation for enlisted assistants will carry joy to the hearts of every one of these officers, and it is earnestly hoped that the recommendation will be enacted into a law. [As it has been since this was received.—EDITOR.] One reason alleged by the Commissary-General as making this necessary is, that the law of July 23, 1863, imposed upon the Commissary Department, the furnishing of a great number of articles formerly kept by sutlers. This reason would appear much more forcible to the Army if the Commissary Department had endeavored to carry out the obligation more in accordance with both the letter and spirit of the law. Under it a few articles that gastronomic civilization has made it a hardship, and almost an impossibility to do without, have been supplied for purchase by officers and men; but the list has been rapidly growing less every year. What Congress meant by sutlers' articles can only be inferred; but the law passed March 19, 1862, in reference to such articles gives a good indication. Certain it is that the little wants of the soldier are entirely ignored in the "commissary list," and it seems the harder that it is so, when the fact becomes known that the little articles that go to make up their wants are entirely unperishable, and but little liable to deterioration from any exposure they might ordinarily experience. The Commissary Department alleged as an excuse for non-compliance with this law originally, that Congress had made no appropriation for the purchase of the articles. But the officers and soldiers upon the frontier both know and feel that no money for the purchase of such articles was ever estimated for or applied for in Congress by the Commissary Department, and are pretty sure that attempts have been made to stop such legislative liberality. K.

LINEAL THE ONLY LEGAL PROMOTION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have looked with some care through a pamphlet entitled "Revision of the United States Statutes. Titles XIV., The Army; XV., The Navy," the same being a part of the report to Congress of three commissioners appointed pursuant to an act approved June 27, 1866—to provide for the revision and consolidation of the Statute Laws of the United States. Title XIV., sec. 112, page 31 is as follows: Promotions in the line shall be made through the whole Army in its several lines of artillery, cavalry, infantry, respectively. Promotions in the Staff of the Army shall be made in the several corps respectively. (Acts of 30th March, 1814, and 3d March, 1861.)

Query 1. Have the honorable commissioners, Messrs. James, Abbott and Barringer, adequately expressed the true intent and meanings of the acts referred to, and, if they have: Query 2. Under what authority, or assumption of authority, are promotions in the line of the Army made, not "through the whole Army, in its several lines," etc., but by an inequitable admixture of lineal and regimental promotion? HOPELESS SUB.

ARMY PATENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The bill brought before Congress by Mr. Coburn, of Indiana, to repeal the act discouraging military inventions by officers of the Army, by depriving them of royalties on their inventions, should as an act of justice to this class of inventors become a law.

As a rule, improvements and inventions originate with those who are interested or employed in the profession or trade to which their improvements or inventions are particularly related, and all professions and trades, in order to become more perfect, must invent and adopt improvements, and to keep pace with one another should be equally protected and encouraged by indiscriminating laws.

Military inventions have generally been produced by men in the military service, who have like other inventors, perfected their inventions only after great labor and expense, naturally expecting reward in the event of success. A law tending to deprive persons in the service of the benefits arising from their inventions has a tendency to impede improvement in military equipments, and consequently militates against the effectiveness of the Army.

A military invention cannot be sold to the general public; the inventor turns to the Government as his only patron. It would be vain to expect one to undergo the labor and expense necessary to perfect an invention, in the face of a law depriving him of benefits arising from its sale.

It is argued that the Government would be justified in appropriating the inventions of persons employed and paid in its service. Can we not with equal propriety apply this argument to the civil professions and trades? If a railroad company should appropriate the invention of an employee it would be looked upon as an act of injustice and tyranny, and, if the law sanctioned and sustained such a proceeding, how fast would we move?

It is not within the province of an officer's duty to the Government to originate a plan for the profitable investment of savings from his salary, neither is it his duty to invent a better musket than the one given him by the Government, and expend his salary in perfecting the same, yet the Government, it seems to me, would be as well justified in appropriating the profits arising from his investment as it would be in appropriating his invention without just compensation. P.

TRIAL OF CHILLINGWORTH'S TROWEL BAYONET.

(From the Springfield Republican, February 1, 1873.)

As the verdict of the small-arms board on Chillingworth's trowel bayonet has undoubtedly been given, it would not be out of place to give a description of the experiments recently made by them. The weapon was placed in the hands of three men who were detailed from

the outdoor laborers for that purpose. By direction they dropped upon their right knee, and, holding the socket of the instrument with both hands, they thrust it into the earth seven to eight inches, then rapidly pressing it first to right, then to the left, "the point of the bayonet acting as a fulcrum," cutting the sod for a distance of twelve to fourteen inches, and then pushing the weapon under the sod cut, they loosened it from the earth. By continually stepping backward, and repeating the operation described, they loosened the soil for a space of five feet ten inches square. After piling up the sods in front of the trench dug, they grasped the socket with the right and the point of the bayonet with the left hand, and, holding the instrument in this manner, drew the loosened earth forward, throwing it upon and over the sods, forming a breast-work five feet long, three feet thick at the bottom, one at the top, and nineteen inches high—"time, 4 minutes." The soil was very hard, not having been disturbed for over twenty years, besides being full of roots, but the wedge shape of the bayonet parted and drew the earth out from between them. In the second trial, which was in easier digging, from the experience they had just received, the men handled the weapon much better, so that in the short space of two minutes and three quarters they dug a trench six feet square, throwing the earth up in front in the same manner as in the first trial, forming a ball proof embankment six feet six inches long, nineteen and one-half inches high, three feet thick at the base, and one on the top, behind which the three men were directed to lie down, when they were so concealed that they could not be seen at the short distance of ten paces. This is making cover in a much less period of time than entrenching tools could be ordered and brought from the rear to the front of an army. One of the bayonets was then fixed upon a musket, and on attempting to dig with it, it proved that the length of the piece caused the weapon to hang at such an angle that the earth could not stay upon it, which demonstrated the fact that the soldier could not, if he would, use the bayonet as an entrenching instrument when fixed upon the gun. These men undoubtedly worked as rapidly as possible, but no faster than they would if under fire, and their lives depended upon the rapidity of their labors.

MERIT BEFORE MONEY.

In the course of the debate in the U. S. Senate on the bill to increase the compensation of the President, Vice-President, members of the Cabinet, and of Congress and the Judges of the Supreme Court, Mr. Carpenter said:

Mr. President, whenever a bill is brought in to increase the salary of any particular officer, it is said that the salaries of all our officers ought to be increased, but it ought to be done by a general bill. This comes the nearest to a general bill that I have ever known in the Senate, and now it is said this is not the time to increase the salaries, though all admit that they are wholly inadequate.

This is much more important than the amount of money involved. The real question is, whether poor men shall be allowed to participate in the administration of the Government. Rich men are all opposed to increasing salaries. That is after their kind. They would abolish salaries altogether if they could, and then only rich men could hold the offices. They would be quite willing to take and administer this Government, make its laws, fill the bench, and take care of the people without a cent of salary. Take a Senator worth his million or two, what does he care whether the pay of a Senator is five or ten thousand dollars. The difference would not make a ripple on his bank account; but it would settle the question with a poor man whether he could be a Senator or not.

It is very cheap patriotism for a Senator worth millions to say that the people's money ought not to be taken to pay salaries. If the people are to govern this country, if, in other words, it is to remain a Government of the people and not of the rich only, then the people must pay the expenses of government. When they become unwilling to do this, then the rich will take the task off their hands and run the Government in the interest of capital.

As I said in discussing this subject on a former occasion, to pass a law saying no man shall be a judge or a Senator unless he has property yielding an income of five or ten thousand dollars a year, would cause a revolution. But what is the difference between such a law and one fixing the salaries of all these offices so low that a man cannot hold the office unless he has a private fortune? In England it is the theory of government that capital should govern. How do they secure this? By giving no compensation to members of Parliament. A poor man cannot go to Parliament. He might get the votes, but his family would starve while he was performing his office. The House of Commons is the richest body of men in England.

There is one department of the British monarchy, the judiciary, which is designed to be opened to merit with wealth or without wealth, and there they pay four times as much salary as we pay to our judges in this country. The real principle involved in the question of compensation or no compensation is this: shall men of intellect and character be excluded from the Government if they are poor? In other words, shall our Government be republican, representing and administered by the people, rich and poor, or shall it become a Government for the rich, and be administered only by rich men?

The most perfect equality between the sons of the rich and the sons of the poor that I ever saw was in the Military Academy at West Point twenty-five years ago. The pay of every cadet was the same, and no cadet was allowed to receive a cent from any relative or source whatever except the Government. He was credited with his pay, and charged with the things he was permitted to buy. I was there two years, and the only cent of money I saw during that time was a ten-cent piece that I picked up on the pavement one morning. As I could not spend it, I threw it into my trunk, and it remained

there till I went on furlough. The result of that system was that merit, industry, brains alone determined the standing of the cadet. And not unfrequently the cadet who graduated at the head of his class was the son of a poor and obscure man.

Increase the pay of members of Congress so as to pay the reasonable expenses of living and a fair compensation for the labor we perform and you open Congress to brains. Reduce the pay and you open it to men of wealth. Men will fill these seats not for what they are, but for what they have. The rich will run the Government without pay in the form of salary. Then will be realized the old idea of the rich taking care of the poor; taking care of them as the wolf takes care of the lamb.

THE CADETS' TRIP.

THE STORY AS TOLD BY ONE OF THEMSELVES IN A LETTER TO THE "WORLD."

WHEN it was first decided that we were to go to Washington we all shared the grave doubts of our superior officers regarding the propriety of the step. We, as well as they, realized how disastrous would be any misfortune, how fatal any failure. Gradually all the responsibility was shifted upon us. We were made to feel that the eyes of the country were upon us: then that we were entirely upon our honors—that no "demerit book" would accompany the corps, and that the morale of the battalion would depend only upon the individual morals and marching. We arrived, and of course, were assigned the post of honor at the head of the column. Thanks to the padding in our breasts, nobody could know how our hearts swelled with pride—how our very backbones became rigid with self-consciousness. Well, why not? We knew we could out-march, out-drill, out-dance anything in the column; and we did, too—ask the ladies if we didn't. We were without overcoats and fearfully cold. Nothing short of a positive order would have made us protect our forms with any such monstrosities. Overcoats indeed! and at the expense of the appearances. We were instructed to wear double suits of underclothing instead. Some of us, however, were wiser in our generation and refused even this sacrifice of outward show to inward comfort. Well fed and cared for we were, and no more serious trials happened to us than the frost-biting of some score of fingers, and the barking of some dozens of reels. What was all this compared to the glory of the affair? Bands playing, banners waving, bright eyes beaming on us, and delicate tinted hands applauding us more than saved our wounds.

And then the ball? In a delirium of unwonted freedom we whirled in the waltz and cavorted through the gallop. But we behaved ourselves; everybody must admit that. How we all pitied the naval cadets! They were turned loose on the streets with two dollars apiece, and told to shift for themselves. It was supposed that they all had friends in the city. Some of them may have had, but a reliable gentleman informed me that he found sixty of them in a lager-beer saloon in a vile quarter of the town, cowering over a fire, hungry, tired, and forlorn, without money, and anxiously awaiting the time of their return. Washington was all well enough, but the crowning glory of the trip was our reception by the Seventh Regiment at New York. We all admit that. Even General Upton says he never saw anything more gracefully done, and never experienced any reception so cordial and at the same time so artistic from a military point of view. After the reception ceremony at the Battery, and the triumphal march up Broadway amid a continuous line of admiring spectators, the Seventh again formed its line on Third Avenue and Sixth street, and the cadet corps marching by ran the gauntlet of eager, critical eyes which gazed at them from the regimental armory of the Seventh, then filed into that spacious building and took possession of the large drill-room on the second floor, where a bountiful cold collation, consisting of coffee, sandwiches, biscuits, and hard-boiled eggs, had been provided for them by their entertainers. Among the distinguished persons present were Major-General Shaler and staff, of the National Guards; General Bathbone; Major-General Roy, of the United States Army at Governor's Island; General Richard Arnold, U. S. A.; Lieutenant-Colonel Upton, Commandant of the Cadet Corps; and Quartermaster E. M. Weed, of the Seventh, under whose supervision the entertainment was arranged. Before leaving the large drill-room of the armory Colonel Upton put his command through a few exercises in the manual of arms, and the automatic precision and promptness with which they were executed by the "youngsters" elicited the most enthusiastic plaudits from the Seventh's boys. Thanks to our daily practice we can out-drill them somewhat, but we fully appreciate their perfections—their easy, swinging march, and prompt, soldierly bearing; and their fine appearance, not less than their splendid hospitality, is a subject of constant remark among us.

The corps arrived at West Point in a special train at twenty-seven minutes to five P. M., footsore, fagged, and weary, but fully impressed with the idea that they had had "a bully good time." As they left the cars three rousing cheers were given for "our Washington trip" and three more for "General Upton, our commandant." And then the excitement was over and the weary, straggling march through the snow across the river began. Marching on hard pavements had used us up and we straggled fearfully. As we wearily climbed the hill on the Point side of the river the hearty cheers of welcome from those who had remained at the Point again roused our drooping spirits, and then forming line in the barrack-yard General Upton addressed a few words of thanks and congratulation to the corps, praising their obedience and good conduct throughout the entire trip, and expressing his gratification at finding his command so abundantly capable of that self-control which is a soldier's best safeguard.

Thus ended our first trip to Washington, and cadets and officers agree in hoping that the experiment may never be repeated. C.

WEST POINT, March 8.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE CITY ARMORIES AND THE SUPERVISORS.—The meetings of the Board of Supervisors during the past few months have been pretty well occupied with matters concerning the cancelling of leases, and releasing of buildings for the uses of the military of New York. The Nilsson Hall armory investigation having subsided, the board have been wrangling over these armories ever since, as its two last meetings show. On Monday, at the regular weekly meeting of the Board of Supervisors, a resolution authorizing the clerk of the board to lease for a term of three years from the first of May next, at an annual rental of \$20,000, the premises now occupied by the Twenty-second regiment as an armory, was lost. Mr. McCafferty said that the regiment must have an armory, and he therefore moved that a committee of three be appointed to ascertain whether the premises can be rented for less than \$20,000 yearly. Mr. Cooper said:—If we are to have a well-organized and well-regulated militia in this city some action must be taken in the matter under consideration. The Twenty-second regiment has been of but trifling expense to the city for the past ten years, and yet I would not pay one dollar more rent on that account. It is an excellent regiment, as the citizens well know. It has expended upwards of \$200,000 of its own money in fitting up buildings and keeping them in proper condition. They are certainly entitled to an armory, and I think it will be cheaper to take the premises now occupied by them at \$20,000 per annum than to hire new premises and fit them up. The Twenty-second has done good service, and is entitled to retain its present armory for the next three years. Mr. Monheimer was against giving such big sums for armories, and thought the thing led to a system of corruption. Mr. Kehr stated that it would cost \$50,000 to remove the regiment and fit up its quarters in addition to the rent. The renting of the present premises would save money to the city. Mr. Monheimer said:—We can get as good a building for \$5,000 as the regiment now has for \$20,000. I'm not in favor of giving these regiments palaces to drill in. Mr. Lynght moved to refer the subject to the Committee on Armories and Drill-rooms. This motion was lost, and Mr. Cooper then offered a substitute for Mr. McCafferty's resolution; but this was withdrawn, and, the vote being taken on the pending resolution, the resolution was lost. Mr. Cooper then presented a report from the Committee on Armories and Drill-rooms to the effect that the clerk rent the premises for three years, at \$20,000 per annum. This was received and laid over. A communication from Captain Ely, chairman of the Armory Committee of the Seventh regiment, was received and referred to the Committee on Armories and Drill-rooms. The following is an extract from the communication:

The roof of the armory now occupied by us over Tompkins Market is in a sadly dilapidated condition, and leaks so badly and in so many places that the furniture and property of the regiment, costing many thousands of dollars, are in great danger of being irreparably damaged unless the trouble is very soon remedied. Responsible parties who have thoroughly examined the premises inform us that it is beyond repairing. We therefore respectfully request that a new roof be built at as early a day as practicable.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—It is a fact worthy of comment that some of our best National Guard regiments not unfrequently do so remarkably well at drill as to win almost fulsome reports and compliments, and probably at the very next drill, by mistakes of officers and unsteadiness of the men, call forth criticisms as severe as the former praise was well-deserved. Among the regiments subject to these spasmodic changes is the Twelfth, and the last illustration of this fact was given on Monday evening at the State Arsenal. All regiments or their officers on these occasions have excuses to offer, which sometimes are good, but oftener bad. One officer throws the responsibility of his error on a fellow officer, or the regimental commandant will charge the errors of his command to superabundance of juniors in control of companies and recruits in the ranks. These excuses have their weight sometimes, but none of them can be offered by the Twelfth, for all the seniors were present, and the only real excuse was the absence in the ranks of the veteran element of the regiment, which latter it seems only parade on "occasions of State," or when the full-dress is worn, instead of stated occasions. Moreover it is apparent that the Twelfth, like most other organizations, not only look but do better in its good "clo's," or when under the immediate eyes of an inspector-general. This last drill and the one previous, given in the presence of the Inspector-General, are not to be compared. At the last drill the wearing of the fatigue uniform drove out all the veterans, many of whom appear at all times to take more interest as spectators than participants, particularly when the fatigue dress is ordered. The regiment was consolidated to eight commands of ten files, and the movements were in many instances new to the regiment, the position of the battalion the greater part of the time being inverted. Still this latter does not, as a rule, trouble the Twelfth, for it seems to be at home in either position, Colonel Ward, with wise precaution, having practiced the regiment well in these movements, so that inversions rarely confuse the regiment. By the above remarks we do not wish to infer that the drill was full of official mistakes, or that the battalion frequently became confused; this last drill merely being so much inferior to many of the previous efforts of the Twelfth, and particularly the last. The men were unsteady at times, and seemed to lack

interest, and the spirit did not seem to move them in the least. Moreover some of the officers went wool gathering and failed to take their usual interest in the drill. Colonel Ward and his assistants, Lieutenant-Colonel Gilderaleve and Major Cruger, did well, as a matter of course; but what got into Adjutant Murphy? "Tell it not Gath; publish it not in the streets of Askelon;" for he it told that Adjutant Murphy became so anxious to get behind the colonel that he actually forgot the "front," after the ranks were opened at the formation. Still he seemed to be looking out for others, or why else should he remind the captain of the third company in line (I) that he had not come to a "support." During the drill, particularly in marching in column of fours, the left companies were invariably out of step; and in marching in column of companies at any time, the second (C) and seventh (E) commandants only preserved the proper distances from their respective companies, while many of the other commandants more than doubled the prescribed distances. In deploying from column, Companies A, D, and I invariably halted immediately on the line before dressing. In the execution of close column by division, right in front, the chief of second division (F) failed to assume command of his division, but, instead, marched his company off the line, and almost arrived in the rear of the first division before he was aware of his mistake. In marching in column of companies the third company (I) seldom preserved the distance, and, to our surprise, in several instances other commandants manifested unusual lack of interest in the drill. The manual of arms was not by any means up to the standard of the Twelfth, and we trust at the next drill to see not only improvement, but more interest manifested throughout the regiment. The Twelfth has good material, is getting in some excellent new officers, and we know it can do much better when it tries.

SEVENTY-NINTH REGIMENT (HIGHLANDERS).—This command is ordered to assemble in fatigue uniform at the State Arsenal March 19, at 7:30 o'clock p. m., for instruction and drill. Non-commissioned officer's drill has been suspended in this command until further orders. The above-ordered drill will be strictly private; none admitted unless in uniform.

FIFTEENTH (BATTALION) INFANTRY.—This command, Lieutenant-Colonel Meyenborg, will assemble at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Tuesday evening, March 18, at 8 o'clock, in full uniform (white gloves), with side-arms, for a dress parade on that evening. The officers, non-commissioned officers, drum corps, and privates will assemble at the armory, Phoenix Hall, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, March 24, at 8 o'clock, in fatigue uniform, for a battalion drill and settlement for tickets sold for the promenade concert.

TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—The right wing of this regiment, comprising Companies A, C, E, and I, assembled in fatigue uniform, with white body and cross belts, at the arsenal, Brooklyn, for battalion drill on Friday evening last. The left wing, comprising Companies B, D, F, and K, is ordered to assemble for same purpose on the evening of March 21. The following men having been expelled, February 8, by vote of Company E, viz.: Irwin F. Beadle, Arthur V. Dickinson, Robert W. Oakley, William Robertson; the same is approved by Lieutenant-Colonel S. H. Farnham, commanding.

FORTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.—The Supreme Court has ordered the Board of Supervisors of Broome county to show cause why it should not be compelled to audit and pay Colonel J. C. Robie, of the Forty-fourth Infantry, headquarters at Binghamton, N. Y., \$2,000 for armory expenses of the last two years, and Captain Crosby, of the Veteran battery, of same place, \$525 for like expenses; also, why suitable armories should not be erected or rented for the future use of the militia of the county. In view of this precedent, we presume most of the National Guard commands of the State will be forwarding mandamus to all the County Supervisors compelling them to pay bills and build armories. Perhaps the Seventh, of New York, or Thirteenth, of Brooklyn, may succeed by this means in their armory building matter.

THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.—The several organizations of this brigade, General Varian commanding, are ordered to parade fully equipped for review and inspection, by Brevet Major-General William H. Morris, Inspector-General State of New York, as follows: Fifty-fifth regiment March 17, First regiment at the State Arsenal March 18, Ninth regiment at its armory March 20, Eighth regiment at the State Arsenal March 21, First Troop Washington Grays at the Eighth regiment armory March 24—all at 8 p. m. The Seventh regiment will be reviewed and inspected on the north side of Union Square April 10 at 4:30 p. m. The brigade staff will assemble in full uniform on "St. Patrick's Day," at the State Arsenal, at 7:30 p. m.

ELEVENTH INFANTRY.—This command, Colonel Vilmar, paraded on Wednesday evening at the State Arsenal for review and inspection by Brevet Major-General W. H. Morris, Inspector-General S. N. Y. The regiment formed at its armory at about five o'clock p. m., and, after a parade, passing in review before Colonel Vilmar at his residence in Washington Square, reached the Arsenal at 7:35 p. m. The regiment was equalized in ten commands of twelve files front, with its full complement of line officers and non-coms, and a band of forty pieces and sixteen drums, making in all about 420 men

and presented as handsome an appearance as any command parading since the commencement of these inspections.

At 8:15 p. m. General Morris arrived, accompanied by Brigadier-General Funk, commanding Second brigade, Colonel Blanchard, assistant inspector-general, and three staff officers. The regiment was immediately formed for review, the Colonel omitting the command "Prepare for review."

After the Inspector-General acknowledged the salute, the colonel closed the ranks, but, seeing the mistake, immediately opened them again. General Morris then passed down the line, observing every man critically. The passage in review might have been better (and was at its practice previous to the arrival of the General); but the men were a little nervous. The distances and marching, however, were good; but the salutes of officers very poor, the one regimental staff officer ignoring the salute completely. We saw no reason for Colonel Vilmar breaking into column of fours after forming column of companies, there being plenty of room for wheeling by company. This movement appeared to affect the steadiness of the men. Before closing the review the command was marched past division front, again forming from column of fours, the fronts being excellent, and distances well preserved; several of the company commandants, however, unwarrantably saluted. At the close of the review the regiment was broken into column for inspection, the adjutant failing to bring the colors to the front at the command "Rear open order," and was reminded of his error by the colonel. After the inspection the command was exercised in a few battalion movements, but the size of the room prevented a fair exhibition of the regiment's capabilities. General Morris expressed himself well pleased with the appearance of the regiment and its performances. In conclusion, we would recommend the lieutenant-colonel to repeat the commands given by his superior only, and not improve on them. If the colonel errs, he alone is responsible, and it does not mend the matter for the lieutenant-colonel to correct him by giving another command.

SECOND DIVISION.—The several organizations of this division located in Brooklyn will be formally inspected by Inspector-General Morris as follows: Separate Troop and batteries attached to division, April 2; Fifteenth battalion and troop cavalry Fifth brigade, April 3; Thirty-second regiment and troop cavalry Eleventh brigade, April 8; Thirteenth regiment, April 10; Twenty-third regiment and howitzers, April 15; Twenty-eighth regiment, April 17; Fourteenth regiment, April 18.

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This command drilled by wing at its regimental armory on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday. On both evenings the battalion formed four commands of twelve files, and the main portion of the time was devoted to instruction in the loadings and firings, the battalion forming in single rank a portion of the time, so as to give better facility for instruction. The drill on Monday evening was remarkable for one thing, at least, and must have surprised any looker-on. It seems the colonel was the only member of the field and staff present, and in the absence of the adjutant called upon an enlisted man (sergeant-major) to perform the latter's duties. Let us ask, Have the officers of the Forty-seventh become reduced to this? And how long has this been going on in the Forty-seventh? Here was an enlisted man commanding commissioned officers, and acting and saluting as a commissioned officer. We cannot comprehend this, in so fine an organization as the Forty-seventh, nor do we understand the motive of so good an officer and thorough instructor as Colonel Austen in ordering this unmilitary proceeding. It is very evident from this that the lieutenants of the Forty-seventh, of the right wing at least, are either not competent to perform the duties of an adjutant or else Colonel Austen puts more trust in a non-commissioned officer; by the appointment of two sergeant-majors in succession to the position of adjutant, within the past few years, the colonel has shown a disposition that way. During these drills the men were very steady, and Colonel Austen gave his instructions very lucidly, as usual. The colonel, however, sometimes became quite sharp when he noticed any want of attention on the part of the men, and in one instance ordered a man from the ranks. At the drill of the left wing on Tuesday the adjutant was in attendance, and, as on the former evening, the battalion was instructed in the loadings and firings. In the outset, after formation the colonel commanded, "Load in three times, load one time and three motions; first motion—make a half face to the right and—don't spit tobacco juice on the floor." This elicited a hearty laugh. A great number of the men use the filthy weed, and no doubt anybody can see to-day exactly where the battalion line stood by the stains on the floor. The Forty-seventh should overcome this habit during drill at least, for nothing is so disgusting to a spectator as the constant expectoration along the line during a drill.

EIGHTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.—This command, of which we hear generally but little, assembled at the State Arsenal on Tuesday evening for review, inspection, and drill before Inspector-General Morris. The arsenal was crowded to excess with spectators, General Duryea and other notable military gentlemen being present. The battalion for some unaccountable reason was not equalized, its eight commands presenting fronts varying from eight to twelve files. Colonel Conkling was in command, and at the formation the third company in line failed to come to a "support," after dressing. Without waiting for the battalion to be turned over, the colonel assumed command just after the troop had beaten

off, and prepared the battalion for a review to the Inspector General, who was accompanied by Colonel Blanchard, his assistant, and several members of the Second brigade staff. The review, as a whole, was a decided improvement, and the men in their full-dress uniforms looked remarkably well. The company distances were good, but the marching and salutes generally inferior, if we may except the first (F) and eighth (K) companies in column, who appeared to good advantage, particularly the latter company. At the close of the review, on wheeling into line the colonel gave the command, "On the centre dress," and the drum corps failed to give the ruffles. The battalion then broke into open column of companies for informal inspection; after which the band and drum corps commenced playing, and the battalion formed division from column of fours on the march, and continuing the march down the length of the room, a movement executed recently by the Seventy-first regiment, and for which there is no apparent authority. The battalion did and looked well in this movement. It then again broke into column of fours, wheeled into line, halted, then advanced, and halted in the centre of the room. The battalion then formed close column by division, right in front, the color company invariably getting confused in the ployments and deployments; the battalion commander in one instance being compelled to personally dress the company. After deploying into line, the battalion executed double column at half distance, and then, forming company, marched past the inspecting party, the captains of the fifth, sixth, and seventh companies saluting, evidently mistaking the march in column of companies for a closing marching salute to General Morris. The adjutant by direction of the colonel then dismissed the command with dress parade ceremony, the ranks being closed.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—In speaking of the militia and on armory matters the *New York World*, in a recent issue, editorially says: "The militia is not a department of expenditure in which we can afford to be niggardly. It may be that some of our regiments are as inefficient as their armories, and are neither an ornament nor a defence to the State. That is an excellent reason for disbanding them, but not for keeping them inefficient. And we have many regiments which are efficient, and some of which the efficiency is marvellous considering the means which are not used to promote it. These regiments have a claim upon us for everything that tends to keep up their discipline. In some instances they need to have their armories overhauled and renewed; in others they need new armories altogether in more convenient places. The fellow-citizens and the lawmakers of the militiamen ought to take care that those needs are no longer neglected." These are very true words, and we only wish the public, through the press, could be made to fully understand the essential value of a good militia organization. It is also true that some of our militia organizations are as valueless as the armories they occupy, still that can be easily remedied by disbandment, and the National Guard made almost as efficient as the Regular Army. With the little time spared to the military, many of National Guard organizations are now its equal in discipline and drill; and this is accomplished more through personal pride than force or fear of the law and its penalties. The enrolled militia of Massachusetts, according to the last report of the Adjutant-General, is 200,000. The armed militia (uniformed) consisted on the fullest encampment day, last fall, of 124 field and staff, 3,805 infantry present and 1,078 absent, 365 cavalry present and 144 absent, 442 artillery present and 127 absent, and 270 in bands. The total force is 4,883 infantry, 509 cavalry, and 569 artillery, making with field and music, 6,355. The entire force is in a better condition than it was before the late war. The "funny man," of the *World*, on Friday of last week thus facetiously referred to the West Point Cadets: "Those of the West Point Cadets who were not too foot-sore began yesterday to tread again the beaten pathway of the Academic course. Their 'spree du corps' is done with." A daily paper states that the "New Jersey's battle flags were removed yesterday from the old State Arsenal to the Capitol, amid great rejoicing." Rejoicing at their removal, or was it at the memories which those battle-torn flags awakened? General Orders No. 5 from General Headquarters State of New York announce that Kilburn Knox, of the city of New York, has been appointed commissary-general and chief of ordnance of the State of New York, with the rank of brigadier-general. The Twelfth Infantry, according to the reports of the supervisors' proceedings as published in the dailies, is receiving an unwarranted notoriety relative to its armory, at the expense of the Twenty-second Infantry. This evident typographical error should be corrected, or some one made to make the word Twelfth appear less like the Twenty-second, for it will not do to let it go abroad that the Twelfth had expended \$200,000 putting up and furnishing an armory which has always been occupied by the Twenty-second, even if this latter command, through the economical blindness of a few supervisors, is finally compelled to vacate the most suitable armory in the city. We are authoritatively informed that the "Skidmore Guard," a colored company of this city and not in any way on the rolls of the National Guard of New York State, some time since, through the urgent solicitations of many down-town merchants, was granted permission by Governor Hoffman to use the State Arsenal for the purposes of military instruction. This company has now made application to the Board of Supervisors for an armory,

and the next movement consistent with these others will be permission to parade on all occasions as a portion of the National Guard of the State. We will here state en passant that this colored company is one of the best behaved organizations that enter the arsenal. Its members, the arsenal attaches state, are quiet and orderly in their deportment, and attentive to the military instruction of their white drill-master. We therefore do not oppose the company on that ground, and still less on the ground of color. It is the principle and the exceeding bad precedent established by the State's officially recognizing a detached organization for which, under the law, there is no authority. This semi-recognition of this independent military command gives every opportunity for political or other organizations to use the property and the buildings set aside by the State for the State militia exclusively, and any infringement on that right is contrary to the law and unwise. The bill providing for an armory for the Thirtieth Infantry, of Brooklyn, was brought up in the Assembly of the State Legislature on Monday, and by a vote of 41 to 45 defeated. Mr. Worth in a speech denounced the bill as a most iniquitous measure, and voted nay. Mr. Watt rose to reply, but as his vote has been taken he was not in order. Mr. Norton moved a reconsideration, and that the motion be laid on the table. On this question, Mr. Watt stated that the remarks of Mr. Worth grew out of a personal animosity of that gentleman against the colonel of the regiment, and when he says his feelings toward him were kindly he states a falsehood. As to the people of Brooklyn being opposed to this measure, there were people representing \$20,000,000 in favor of it. The building this regiment now occupies is totally unfit for military purposes. Mr. Worth reiterated his remarks. The motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table was carried, thus saving the bill for another trial. A Regular officer, in a communication found in the correspondent department of the *JOURNAL*, pays a pleasing compliment to the Fifth Infantry, Colonel Spencer, which cannot help but gratify its members. The Sixty-ninth will parade on St. Patrick's day, also the Fifty-fifth, at the State Arsenal. The Fifteenth battalion will hold a dress parade and afterwards a promenade concert at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn, on Tuesday evening next. On Monday Mr. Young offered in the State Assembly the following resolution, which was adopted: Whereas, Many persons are members of the National Guard who are over forty-five years of age, and thus exempt from taxation, thus unjustly throwing the burden of their taxation on others; therefore, Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be requested to strike from the roll of the National Guard all members over forty-five years of age, as such are exempt from call in case of war, and none but sound men should be connected with the National Guard. The family of the Governor has been plunged in mourning by the receipt of a despatch from Paris, announcing the death in that city of Colonel Charles Temple Dix, the youngest son of the Governor, and an artist of high promise. He served in the late war as an aide-de-camp on the staff of his father. Colonel Dix was married about five years ago, to an English lady, and has ever since that time resided abroad. The National Guard Riding Club of Williamsburgh is progressing slowly, but surely, in acquiring the knowledge of horsemanship. When the "beau tiful snow" is run into the ground, and linen dusters are exposed for sale (at \$1.50 each), the club will emerge from Polhemus's Riding Academy like the butterfly from the chrysalis, and gallop on the road to Coney Island at the rate of \$8 per day. A committee, consisting of Colonel Roeber, Adjutant Karcher, and Lieutenant Bertsch, has been appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the club; and, under the able tuition of Instructor Bertsch, it bids fair to assume a prominent position in the rank of the Equestrian Brigade.

A CHALLENGE FOR THE HEATH ZOUAVES.—A Woolverine correspondent sends us the following: "In your journal of February 22 I notice an article in regard to the Heath Zouaves of Pittsburgh, intimating that they have a flag which they call a *champion flag*. Will you please inform me why it is so called. If my memory serves me right, two years ago last June the Heaths published a challenge to the military of the United States, either Regulars or Volunteers, to drill for the championship and a flag valued at about \$500. Among the companies that accepted their challenge was Company A, Cincinnati Zouaves, under command of Captain Tom Ambrose. The drill took place in the Exposition Hall at Cincinnati on the evening of the 31 of July following. After the judges were appointed the Heaths refused to drill unless the decision should be given on general movements, and not on Upton. The Cincinnati company finally consented to that, rather than disappoint an audience of about four thousand people, who had paid fifty cents per head to witness the drill. The judges called it a *draw*. But officers of the Regular Army who were present said that at least four points out of the five should have been given to the Cincinnati company. You can judge of how the Heaths took it from the fact that they went to Cleveland and gave an exhibition drill, and from there home, when they went into a course of instruction to perfect themselves before they ventured so far away from home again. I have not heard of their completing their tour of the States as yet, and am very much surprised to hear them talk of their 'champion flag.' Will you be so kind as to inform your many militia friends in regard to the facts. Of course nothing like discipline can be expected from us Woolverines at the present time; but the Legislature has been enacting laws this winter that will help our twelve companies to a place among the militia of our western States; and when the 'champions' conclude to finish their tour we should be pleased to have them come to Michigan, so that we may take lessons from them, if we cannot compete with them in military movements.

"I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
"ORRINO NEWELL, Captain Ypsilanti Light Guard.
"YPSILANTI, March 3, 1873."

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The Revenue Marine Bureau has determined to place ten of the life-saving stations under the new law along the southern coast from Cape Henlopen to Cape Hatteras.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

The French government has up to March 7 paid to Germany 3,500,000,000 francs on account of the war indemnity.

L'Annuaire Militaire de 1873 is going to appear towards the end of the month. No French Army List has been published since the war, and the coming volume will therefore consist of 1,700 pages.

GENERAL URICH, the defender of Strasbourg, now seventy-one years old and of fifty-three years' service, has been accorded a pension of 9,000 francs, which is the same amount as was recently given to General Trochu.

It is reported that Marshal MacMahon, acting under the orders of the President of the Republic, has come to the determination to mobilize the French army early in the spring, just to see how many troops can be got together in a given space of time.

The Roumanian Ministry of War is said to be negotiating for the purchase of 60,000 American rifles of the latest system, whether Peabody or Remington is not stated. A large number of Martini-Henry rifles have been ordered for Turkey. They are to be supplied by the Providence Tool Company, the only establishment in the United States which has a right to manufacture the arms in question.

GENERAL LADMIRALTY, Military Governor of Paris, has now reached the age when it is usual for officers to be removed from active service; but as he has commanded a corps d'armes in the field, this general rule does not necessarily apply to him. In accordance with the express desire, General Ladmiralet will therefore remain at his post in Paris, where he has commanded with tact and moderation.

The report of the French engineers concerning the new fortifications to be erected round Paris has just been presented to the Ministers of War and of Public Works, who have referred it to M. Thiers, in conformity with his express desire. They recommend the construction of a series of detached forts, the nearest of these forts to the capital being 25 kilometers; they are to communicate with each other, and with the capital, by a strategic line of railway, which will be constructed underground in the vicinity of the forts. Between these detached forts and the fortifications already in existence several entrenched camps are to be established, which, in case of siege, would be capable of holding several corps d'armes.

The question of one-year volunteers in the new French army having to pay 1,500 francs was brought before the Assembly the other day, says the *London Army and Navy Gazette*, when it was clearly shown that the expense to the State per man would not amount to more than half that sum. The government will therefore pocket some 750 francs for each volunteer. General de Cussy, not having much to say in explanation, merely asked the Chamber to adjourn the question just to see how matters worked, and it was adjourned accordingly. It is remarked that the volunteers have to pay the same sum as the military cadets at St. Cyr, and 500 francs a year more than those of the Polytechnic. By the way, it seems curious that the cadets of St. Cyr should pay 1,500 francs a year, and those of the Polytechnic only 1,000 francs, especially when it is considered that the latter school is in Paris, and must be more expensive than the establishment in the neighborhood of Versailles.

The *Cologne Gazette* gives an account of the Russian forces in Central Asia. On the Caspian sea, Russia has seventeen steamers of, together, 980-horse power and 4,400 tons, and seventeen sailing vessels of, together, 1,250 tons. This fleet is considered sufficient to transport in a very short time half, if not the whole, of a division across the Caspian sea. On the sea of Aral are stated to be six Russian steamers of 186-horse power and 500 tons. The regular forces which have been advanced to the Russian frontier districts consist of eighteen battalions and four batteries, to which, however, are to be added considerable contingents of the Tchernomonic and Caucasian line Cossacks. In reality, this force is to be considered only as the vanguard of the Russo-Asiatic army. After the complete subjection of the Caucasus, the main body of that army is now the so-called army of the Caucasus, of which the front is continuously and exclusively directed towards Asia, and which may be transported at any given moment to Central Asia by the fleet of the Caspian sea. This explains why that army has not been dissolved after the subjection of the population of the Caucasus. It is composed now of six divisions of infantry, one division of cavalry, thirty-one batteries with 167 cannon, two battalions sappers and miners, and thirty-six garrison battalions—altogether, when on the war footing, 163,759 men, of whom 90,000 to 100,000 may be put into the field immediately. One of the newly-formed railway battalions has already been joined to that army.

GENERAL DE CUSSEY has just penned a rather fatherly circular on the subject of suicides in the French Army, the crime of *felo de se* having become very prevalent. It is very probable, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*, that the series of disasters during the German war have preyed on the minds of many, and the fall of the Empire on others. The War Minister, however, attributes the growing tendency to self-destruction to a morbid state of mind induced by bad conduct, and the officers are called upon to encourage their men to support the burden of military existence with equanimity, and to refrain from ill practices. Suicide is just like an epidemic, and it has always been remarked in France that it is difficult to stop, especially when any officer of note leads the way. This crime used to throw the first Napoleon into a state of fury. That great commander liked to have the disposal of "food for powder" himself, and considered that a soldier who made away with himself instead of perishing on the field of battle was robbing him. In a celebrated order of the day he characterized suicide as desertion. A second circular, emanating from General de Cussy, rails upon soldiers who may be attacked by civilians to make use of their side-arms. This order would seem to indicate that the feeling between the military and the civil population in France is not good.

The fact is, that in the large towns where Radicals most do congregate, the Communists have not recovered from the severe lesson which the Regulars taught them in the streets of Paris. Hence cowardly assault on isolated soldiers, and the circular of the War Minister, calling on men to use their "cabbage-cutters," and not wait for the police.

The following notice has been issued by the Lords of the British Admiralty, and ordered to be hung up in engine-rooms, store-rooms, and lower decks of Her Majesty's ships: Precautions against fire from spontaneous combustion. It has been ascertained by recent experiments that boiled oil, linseed oil, and rape oils caused cotton waste to burst into flame, or to become a charred mass in the course of a few hours, when exposed in a box to a heat no greater than would be caused by the full absorption of the sun's rays on a summer's day, a condition easily attained by a mass of cotton waste lying in the vicinity of a steam pipe or open fire, and in some cases the combustion has occurred in less than ten hours, except where mineral or sperm oil was used. Moreover, although it has been commonly supposed that the drying oils are more liable to spontaneous combustion than the non-drying oils, the results of experiments with olive and seal oils do not seem to confirm this notion. My lords are, therefore, pleased to direct that the following be added to paragraph 81, page 343, of the Admiralty Instructions: 1. Particular care is to be taken never to allow cotton waste saturated with oils or grease to accumulate, but to have it destroyed immediately after it has been used. 2. All the oils and tallow on board are to be stowed in the iron tanks provided for the purpose, which should be placed as far from the boilers as possible, and the same precaution is to be taken with wipings, if practicable. 3. Metallic cans or stone jars of oil and turpentine should never be stowed in a warm place, as they are liable to have the corks forced out, or the can or jar burst by the great expansion caused by the heat.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Morning Post*, writing on the 25th ult., says: The artillery question has again arisen, and is likely to attain the utmost importance. Some time ago I explained the position of Gen. Hidalgo, who, when a major in the corps, organized and commanded the revolt which took place in Madrid in the summer of 1866. The artillery is the corps d'élite of the Spanish Army, and its officers are universally and deservedly acknowledged to hold a superior position in social status and in acquirements to the rest of the Army. Up to 1866 they had reason to point with pride to the non-intervention of their corps in political matters. But in the conspiracy of that year, Gen. Prim and Senor Ruiz Zorrilla found an accomplice in Hidalgo. It is to be said in his favor that previous to the outbreak he sent in his application to be placed on the retired list, but his request was not granted. He nevertheless tampered with the sergeants of the corps, and although subsequently, after his escape to France, he published a denial of the accusation, his former comrades have always considered him to have been implicated in the murder of artillery officers in the barracks of San Gil. After the revolution he repaid the reward of his exertions, and, with others of the same political antecedents, obtained rapid rank and honors. When he was appointed Captain-General of the Basque Provinces *ad interim*, 600 artillery officers sent in their resignations, but he helped the Government out of its trouble by quitting his post without leave. Much was threatened, but nothing was done. Now he has received a new, although subordinate appointment in Catalonia, and the disturbance must inevitably recur. Either the present Government has purposely created a difficulty in order to find an excuse for resigning, notwithstanding its enormous majorities in the Chambers, or it has determined to organize a new artillery corps. The absurdity of the latter course is patent, but beyond this, the danger of converting so influential a body of men, better trained to arms than any other in Spain, from a state of perhaps passive disapproval into that of active enmity cannot be over-estimated. But the King has chosen his friends, and who is to save him from them?

[From the St. John (N. B.) Telegraph and Journal.]

THE GROUND LOG—HOW TO USE IT, ETC.

BY CAPTAIN N. W. BECKWITH.

THE log, whether it be the ordinary chip, or the more ingeniously devised and complicated machines known as "patent logs"—let them all be classed for distinction's sake under the general title of "sea-log,"—is really of very limited usefulness, as every seaman knows. Since it can only give the rate of a ship's movement through the water, it becomes of course altogether unreliable whenever the water itself is moving in unknown velocities and directions. Out at sea, and in great depths, however, this is of secondary importance, since the safety of the ship is not directly threatened by being merely driven from her proper course, and the astronomical observations afford means of rectification, if the weather is not such as to prevent them from being made, or if it does interfere, so long as there is sea-room, there is no present danger. But when the conditions are reversed—when the ship enters shallow seas, or nears the land—any deviation from the right course is manifestly attended with imminent peril. Add to this a prevalence of fogs, or "thick," or stormy weather, when observations are impossible, and the coast itself is shut from view, except at the cost of a too dangerously close reconnaissance, and the necessity for some means of determining with certainty the precise nature of the ship's motion becomes sufficiently apparent. These data the sea-log can rarely be depended upon to afford, since there is hardly any known coast, the approach to which is not more or less complicated by currents, tidal or otherwise, variations in state of weather, and of the sea, and outlying rocks or shoals. Whatever drift may be communicated to the ship by current, or tide, or swell, the floating log is also subjected to. But the ground-log tells the whole story at a glance. Not floating in the water, like the sea-log, but resting, a fixed point of departure, upon

the bottom, it is obviously impossible that its indication of the ship's actual motion over the ground, (not merely her apparent motion through the water); could be any other than the true one. As to its scope of applicability, the writer has used it at depths of thirty fathoms, and with less difficulty than attends the taking of deep soundings, since it does not necessitate heaving the ship to, but the contrary. The margin of availability this implies will be appreciated by a seaman readily—and, it may be added, there is no reason why it cannot be resorted to, if need be, at four times that depth, even on board the weakest merchantman.

It seems unaccountable that so simple, easy, and obvious an experiment should not long ago have been in general use. Yet the writer, during more than twenty years' experience afloat, has never either seen, or heard definitely, of any device which may be termed a "ground log"—except his own. He may, therefore, be pardoned for describing its use, and recommending it to his professional brethren as a marvellous lightener of the wearing anxieties attendant upon making land under unfavorable circumstances. In such waters as those of China and Java Seas, and adjacent, he has found it invaluable; particularly when working against the monsoons and their attendant currents, and a reckoning kept from this log has always proved more exact and reliable than the best chronometers. He has also tested it at some localities on the coast of the Cape Colony, and in the Guiana current.

For thirty fathoms, and under. Take the ordinary log-line, unbend the "chip" from it. Leave all the usual marks undisturbed. Bend on to the "stray line" as much "stray line" extra as is the depth of water where the log is to be hove. Attach to the end any convenient description of weight for a "sinker"—piece of old iron, hot, stone from ballast, and in old canvas, etc.—of ten to fifteen pounds weight—by a "stop." Throw this overboard, and proceed in the usual way, turning the second glass as the "white rag" passes out, etc., etc. When the sands are run, break the "stop" and disengage the log line which may then be easily hauled in. This gives the rate. It will be found highly conducive to accuracy in obtaining the direction, to have delineated upon either quarter of the ship, at the point where the log-line usually runs, a half compass, properly subdivided into half and quarter points. By means of this the course the line takes may be accurately "set," the reverse of which is, of course, the actual direction in which the ship is moving. A still further improvement is to have a small brass crutch (with or without a sheave inserted), in which the log-line may run, and which must stand firmly in a socket at the exact centre of the painted demi-compasses. For ten or twelve fathoms, or less, a six to eight pound hand lead may be used as a "sinker," not "stopped," but securely bent on, since at those depths so light a weight is easily recoverable.

The revelations of the ground-log are sometimes surprising. To find that the ship, when seemingly going ahead two or three knots with a light breeze, is in reality going astern from half a knot to a knot, under the influence of some unsuspected current, as the writer has more than once experienced in such localities as the Palawan Passage, for example, is, at first, rather startling, but cannot be doubted.

A STATED meeting of the Commandery of the State of New York, M. O. L. U. S., was held at the Army and Navy Club-House, No. 8 West Twenty-eighth street, on Wednesday evening, March 5, 1873. The following candidate for membership was balloted for and elected for the first class: Captain Henry de Borsfeillet Clay, late captain Twenty-third U. S. Infantry.

Mrs. T. G. HOTT, of No. 157 West Thirty-fourth street, New York, has been using a Grover & Baker Sewing Machine for ten years, during which time it has never been out of order and did not cost one cent for repair.

BIRTH.

D'ISAY.—At Fort Wayne, Indiana, February 14, 1873, to Alida L., wife of Isaac d'Isay, late Captain Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, a son.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

REDFIELD—ABERCROMBIE.—At Christ church, Lockport, N. Y., Tuesday, February 25, by the Rev. Jas. Abercrombie, rector, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Foote, of Rochester, J. BAYARD REDFIELD, P. A. Paymaster U. S. Navy, to MARTHA ELIZABETH, daughter of the Rev. James Abercrombie.

DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the editor.

OBITUARY.

At a meeting of the non-commissioned officers of Troop E, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, held March 3, 1873, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God in his inscrutable wisdom to remove from our midst, in the full vigor of manhood, our esteemed friend and fellow soldier SERGEANT DANIEL MAHER, of Troop E, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, and whereas, his uniform kindness has endeared him to all, more especially to the old members of the regiment, therefore be it

Resolved, That while bowing reverently to the chastening hand of an all-wise providence, we feel that we have lost a true friend, and the Army a faithful and efficient soldier. A man of whom we may truly say, none knew him but to love him, none named him but to praise.

Resolved, That we tender our sincerest sympathy to the bereaved relatives in this hour of their affliction.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the relatives of our deceased comrade, also to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for publication.

First Sergeant JOS. CONYERS,
Corporal JAS. T. CLARK,
Corporal H. M. WHEELER,
Corporal CHAS. QUINN,
Sergeant JNO. T. HOBAN, Secretary.

Cain.—At Little Rock Barracks, Ark., January 31, 1873, of typhoid pneumonia, ANICE COOPER CAIN, only child of Anne Cooper Cain and Avery B. Cain, U. S. A., aged four years.